

INTERNATIONAL

Ten held for plotting to kill Gemayel

BEIRUT, Feb 13, (Reuters): Investigators today questioned 10 people held after a remote-control bomb was found on the aircraft of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, security sources said.

They said the 10 were mostly maintenance workers and soldiers who could have access to aircraft of Middle East Airlines (MEA), the national carrier.

Maintenance staff on Friday found a bomb containing a pound (0.5 kg) of TNT attached to one of the front wheels of an MEA Boeing 707 shortly before it took off for Larnaca, Cyprus, to pick up the President.

A judicial investigator told Reuters: "We are becoming convinced the bomb was aimed at killing the President. The bomb was set to explode by remote control."

Gemayel, who says he will not seek re-election when his six-year term expires in September, was philosophical about the bomb.

Beirut newspapers quoted him as saying in Larnaca: "My fate is like that of the rest of the Lebanese who have been living on a powder keg for the past 15 years."

Vietnam

Gemayel later left Larnaca for Sanan, North Yemen, today for an official visit and would also go to Sudan.

The security sources said it had not been determined whether the bomb was planted in Beirut or in Rome, its last stop before the Lebanese capital.

Sources at the presidential palace said Communications Minister Joseph Al Hashem held urgent talks there on the bomb attempt with top military and security officials including the head of Army intelligence, Simon Kassis.

Kidnappers' hideout located

Palestinians call for release of UN staff

SIDON, Feb 13, (Reuters): Hundreds of angry Palestinians burned tyres at the entrances of two refugee camps near this southern Lebanese port today to protest against the kidnapping of two Scandinavian UN relief workers.

Smoke billowed over Ain Al Hilweh and Miyeh Miyeh camps where a strike closed schools, shops and other businesses for the second time in a week.

Men, women and children carried banners at the camp-calling for the release of Swede Jan Stening, 44, and Norwegian William Joergensen, 57.

The two, who worked for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa), were kidnapped by Palestinian gunmen near Sidon last Friday.

Unrwa, which employs more than 2,000 Palestinians in Lebanon, said the detention of the two threatened continued UN aid to Palestinians and Lebanon.

It said the kidnappers were Palestinians with connections to

the Al Fatah group of Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Arafat was quoted in Cairo today as saying Fatah forces had found the kidnappers' hideout and surrounded it. They had stormed it because the victims' governments had asked them not to do.

Negotiations between Mustapha Saad, leader of the Muslim Popular Liberation Army (PLA), which controls Sidon, and Palestinian and Unrwa officials have failed to secure the release of the two.

The abduction prompted Unrwa to evacuate two of its international staff from Lebanon on Thursday.

An Unrwa spokeswoman said four others, who were on leave at the time of the abduction, would stay in Cyprus and were regarded as safe.

Meanwhile, militia sources said eight seamen, four Poles, three Danes and a Sri Lankan, who were seized by the Leban-

ese Forces Christian Militia seven weeks ago were freed today.

Confirmed

A Lebanese Forces source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the eight were freed. A spokesman for the Danish Embassy, also speaking on condition he not be named, confirmed the Danes' release.

"The three Danish seamen are free. They are going to leave this evening from the eastern (Christian) part of Beirut," the spokesman told the Associated Press by telephone.

When asked whether they would be leaving via the Christian port of Jounieh, 20 kilometres (12 miles) north of Beirut by boat to Larnaca, Cyprus, he said "Yes. That's all I can tell you."

He said he doubted that reporters or photographers would be allowed to see the three men or cover their departure. The names of the eight hostages were not immediately available.

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Africans face murderous campaign

BEIRUT, Feb 13, (Reuters): The macabre murder of up to 15 African workers and students in Beirut, apparently in a campaign of revenge, today brought a cry for help from others who fear they could be next.

Police confirmed four deaths but the African Student Association in Lebanon (Asal) told Reuters seven Africans had been killed and eight had been missing for a week.

An Asal delegation today saw Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss to ask for his help, said one student.

Hoss promised us that he will ask the police to investigate the

killing," he said.

Asal said the victims were from Ghana, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso and Guinea.

Police said the bullet-riddled bodies of the four, from Mali and Sierra Leone, were found in fields near the Dik Al Mehdi suburb East Beirut on Feb 6 and 11.

"A man from Sierra Leone had a fight with a retired Lebanese soldier today and killed him, then the friends of the soldier shot a Senegalese and other Africans," a police officer said.

Asal said more than 1,000

Africans lived in East Beirut while another 1,000 lived in the Western sector.

"The African community in East Beirut is scared and many have started leaving for the West (Beirut)," said Nigerian student George Hanna.

"I saw four bodies at hospitals in East Beirut and they were shot in the head," he told Reuters.

Hanna said one Sierra Leone man was walking in Rabieh suburb near Dik Al Mehdi on Friday when a car drove by and gunmen riddled his body with bullets, killing him instantly.

Vietnam releases political detainees

BANGKOK, Feb 13, (AP): More than 150 former officials of the overthrown South Vietnamese government have been released after 13 years of detention, the official Vietnam news agency reported today.

The report from Hanoi, monitored in Bangkok, did not give specific figures, but said those freed Friday included an ex-cabinet minister, a deputy minister, 10 generals, 115 field-grade officers and 25 captains.

It quoted Col Luu Van Ham, director of the Nam Ha camp south of Hanoi, as saying all 700 former South Vietnamese officials who had been held at the camp have been released.

They were among 1,014 South Vietnamese who were to be released from re-education camps under an amnesty announced by the communist government to mark Tet the lunar new year that begins Feb 17.

The agency said many foreign journalists and a delegation from the Australia-Vietnam Friendship Association attended Friday's release ceremony.

Gratitude

The report said Lt Gen Nguyen Vinh Nghi, former commander of South Vietnam's Third Army Corps, and Col Tran Duc Minh, former director of the Army infantry officers school, spoke for all of the

inmates. The agency said they expressed "gratitude to the government for its humane treatment in spite of the fact that most of them had committed heinous crimes against the country and people."

The prisoners were held without formal charges or trial since communist North Vietnam defeated US-backed South Vietnam and reunified the country in April 1975.

Small numbers were released periodically without fanfare until Hanoi freed 480 former officials to mark National Day last Sept 2.

Meanwhile, Romania allowed a United Nations disarmament official return to his post in Geneva Friday, three years after detaining him in Bucharest, a UN spokesman said.

Liviu Bota, a Romanian national in charge of the UN Institute for Disarmament Research, was reunited with his family in Geneva on Friday, said Mario Zamorano, spokesman for UN secretary-general.

"The secretary-general, on behalf of all the UN staff members, is very pleased with this development," Zamorano said.

According to the UN staff union, Bota's despairing wife tried to kill herself about six months after Bota was called home to Bucharest and kept there.

Hayden in Amman

AMMAN, Feb 13, (AP): Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden arrived today for talks with Jordanian officials on regional and international issues of common concern, the official Jordan news agency reported.

Upon arrival, Hayden was met at Marka military airport near Amman by Deputy Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin and other senior Jordanian officials.



King Hussein of Jordan and Queen Noor meet with the Mayor of Berlin Helmut Zilk (right) in Vienna during their four-day visit to Austria. (Reuter wirephoto)

Dog operates bank account

LONDON, Feb 13, (AP): Doc Whitehead is a 14-month-old lakeland Terrier whose paw print carries purchasing power.

His owners, Kenneth and Susan Whitehead, gave him his own bank account, and the distinctive paw-print signature has paid for a parking ticket and a custom-made dog tag.

Doc got his picture in the London Standard newspaper on Friday, along with a photo of one of his cheques.

The paper said Garrard, the crown jewellers in London, accepted Doc's £5.75 (\$10) cheque in payment for the dog tag.

"Normally we would not accept a cheque from a new client who is a minor," the jeweller was quoted as telling the Whiteheads.

"However . . . we are prepared to accept your personal guarantee of Doc's creditworthiness."

Mrs Whitehead was quoted as saying that Doc got account at the Westminster Bank branch in Southwark, West London, "so he could buy his own toys," but he had to pay a parking ticket while out shopping.

Garrison was in New Delhi

Gurkha violence hits Darjeeling

DARJEELING, Feb 13, (Reuter): Militant Gurkhas blew up road bridges, set fire to government offices and ambushed a police patrol last night as a 40-day strike called to press their demand for autonomy took hold, security officials said.

Paramilitary forces with automatic weapons forced shops to open to try to break the strike but there were few customers. Life in this former British hill station was at a standstill as residents kept off the streets for fear of more violence.

Darjeeling's road links with nearby Siliguri, to the south, were cut and those with Kalimpong, to the east, were kept going under police escort.

Kalimpong was without electricity last night after a bomb hit the local power station. Its waterworks was also damaged by an explosion.

The militant Gurkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) began the strike last Wednesday after its leader, Subhas Ghising, failed to clinch an agreement with New Delhi and West Bengal state to give greater autonomy to the hill inhabited by his people.

Ghising was in New Delhi

today discussing the hill council proposed by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who has rejected his demand for full statehood.

Arrests

Police began rounding up militants on Friday and said they had detained 57 suspects so far.

They said the GNLF had ambushed a patrol on Friday, without causing injuries, and had fired shots at people going to work in defiance of the strike call.

In Darjeeling, a government official, Dawa Lama, was critically wounded when he was shot in the stomach after ignoring GNLF warnings not to go to his office.

The 22-month GNLF agitation has claimed 126 lives, according to official statistics, including those of 15 security personnel. Unofficial estimates place the toll at more than 200.

More than 3,000 people have been arrested and more than 1,000 houses, including 274 government buildings, have been gutted.

West Bengal Information Minister Buddhadev Bhattacharya has estimated the loss of property at 200 million rupees (\$1.5 million).

Planned

Police said officers visited hotels and boarding houses to check the identity of occupants, and planned to establish roadblocks throughout the city.

The military officials said the LTTE deputy commander, whose nom de guerre is "Mahathaya," was among those who slipped through the Indian cordon.

General strikes cripple ...

(Continued from Page 1)

accompanied one of the bus victims to hospital, said that some injured passengers fled the scene for fear of being asked by police to be witness in the case.

Managed

Another 100 demonstrators a three-wheel scooter in central Dhaka and injured 10 people.

Ten other injuries were reported after police wielding batons clashed with 100 slogan-shouting demonstrators near the capital's central Secretariat, witnesses reported.

Police posted outside Dhaka University accused students of hurling a dozen home-made bombs towards shuttered shopping centres nearby. No casualties were reported in the incident.

Candidates have tried particularly to appeal to wide sections of the public in the hope of winning citizens away from traditional voting patterns.

Cyprus was divided in 1974 when Turkish troops occupied the northern third of the island following a short-lived coup in Nicosia engineered by the military junta then ruling Greece.

Ship incident harms ...

(Continued from Page 1)

dangerous manoeuvre.

He said the ships involved were cruising on a parallel course when the collisions occurred, approximately eight miles off the southern tip of Crete, between Sevastopol and Yalta.

"There is a law on ensuring the inviolability of the state border of the Soviet Union. There is no right of passage by warships through our territorial waters," Markov declared.

Moscow is particularly sensitive about its Black Sea coast, where the Soviet Union's southern fleet is based. Soviet ships have access to the Mediterranean through the Bosphorus.

The US Navy has been conducting increasingly active operations in recent years in the Black Sea, where it says all ships have the "right of innocent passage."

Markov said the Yorktown and Caron had also been involved in an incident in March 1986, when the Soviet Union protested over an alleged violation of its waters in the Black Sea.

Ship of Return

(Continued from Page 1)

then Wednesday, but was repeatedly delayed due to the PLO's inability to finalise a charter.

But some of the observers who had initially planned to participate said they would not be able to sail on Monday because of the delay.

"I wish every success," said Lord Christopher Mayhew of Britain. He said he had to return to England because "I simply can't clear one more week" of his schedule.

Sheraton

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Valentine's Day Dinner in Riccardo.
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National Day celebration committee holds meeting

THE supreme committee for celebrating the 27th anniversary of Kuwait's National Day held a meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed, in the attendance of the ministerial committee members Education Minister and acting Higher Education Minister Anwar Al Nouri and Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamed.

The meeting was also attended by the 18-member supreme committee which comprises, among others, information under-secretary Abdel Aziz Ja'far, board chairman and director

general of the Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) Barges Hmoud Al-Barges and director of HH the Amir's Office Ibraheem Al Shatti.

Image

Addressing the meeting, Sheikh Nasser welcomed members of the committee, expressing his pride in the confidence of HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince who entrusted him and other members of the ministerial committee with this task.

He urged committee members to exert their utmost efforts in accentuating this glorious national occasion and giving an honourable image of Kuwait's accomplishments in the various

fields.

The Social Affairs and Labour Minister praised the role of both the public and private sector in bringing this occasion to a success.

For his part, Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber talked about activities and efforts by the ministry during this occasion, affirming the importance of the citizen's role towards the success of this occasion.

After reviewing the various National Day festivities, chairman of the committee charged the information undersecretary to preside over the meeting, in order to prepare these programs for implementation.



The Supreme Committee for the National Day celebrations held a meeting yesterday.

Exhibitions to be held in a better way

THE director of the public relations office at Kuwait International Fairground, Saleh Al Harbi, said the administration was seeking to develop the exhibitions continuously. This will help companies and consumers to achieve the maximum benefit and will make the fairground an effective way to advertising and marketing products.

He told the daily, *Seyassah*, that the exhibitions held this year will have a new dimension through modern ways of displaying products, the introduction of information and data services on participating companies, and providing ample parking space.

Al Harbi expected more success for the Kuwaiti exhibition industry and stressed that it was already effective in boosting local markets, by giving consumers and merchants an opportunity to meet in one place.

Confidence

The director of the Korean House section, said many people had visited the sixth Modern Home Exhibition, and 80 local, Arab and foreign companies were participating.

He said that prices for goods

on display were 25 per cent less than the price at shops outside the exhibition.

He said the exhibition raised the confidence of participants and was effective in boosting the commercial movement in the country. Headed that sales during the exhibition were better than at the shops elsewhere.

The sales manager of a plastic company, Naeem Sabah, said the Modern Home Exhibition was a bit slow during the first two days but picked up later.

He stressed that this year's prices were the same as last year. He said his company represented the national plastic industries company and their prices were lower than those of many foreign firms, mostly from India and southeast Asia.

Organised

The representative of Syria's Abla Company, Radwan Malik, said his company specialised in marketing all hand-made Syrian products and antiques. He said they participated in the exhibition to advertise their products in Arab countries and this was a new step for the company.

Distribution of houses suspended

A SENIOR official at Kuwait's National Housing Authority said that the NHA had suspended the distribution of the old popular houses in Jahra and Umm Al Haiman to prepare for their demolition and replacement by government houses built under the current design.

A member of Al Orahi Contracting Company, Mohammad Spano, said the company specialised in construction materials.

He said that the exhibition this year was better organised than last year.

He said the administration

appeared to have been taking new steps for preparations, and holding two exhibitions at the same time — the perfumes and cosmetics and the Modern Home exhibitions — meant that more customers would visit the fairground to the benefit of both exhibitions.

The director of a Tunisian silver company, Mohammad Rafiq Al Hlaib, said it was the first time his company was participating in an exhibition held in Kuwait.

He added that a large number of people were interested in Tunisian silver products. He said the prices were reasonable and a discount was also given.

He found the Kuwait market an active one, and the number of customers was a good sign for better future business.

An official of the Golden Galaxy Company, Menya Bin Nasser, said that the exhibition was a good opportunity to evaluate the local market. She said Kuwait's residents showed a great interest in Tunisian products.

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Plan to sell old exchange equipments at auction

A RELIABLE source at Kuwait's Ministry of Communications announced that the ministry is planning to sell at auction the equipments of the old telephone exchange in Shuwaikh. The source added that a previous attempt to auction off a terminal resulted in a bid of KD35,000 which did not even cover the cost of making the terminal.

Sources called on the Minister of Communication Abdullatif Al Sharhan to reconsider the sale of the terminal since it could be used for spare parts for terminals throughout the country resulting in considerable savings on the cost of spare parts spent annually by the ministry reaching KD80 to 90 thousand. The sources added that the terminal would probably not be sold for more than KD5,000 at public auction anyway.

There are 12 telephone exchanges in the country, the sources said, which are of the same make as the Shuwaikh terminal and could use spare parts from this terminal. They said that in 1986 spare parts cost KD186,000, adding that the terminal would be capable of supplying spare parts for five to ten years. They argued further that the terminal should be kept to save money on these parts rather than having to pay double for them from companies importing them.

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An authorised source at the Foreign Ministry said the message was related to bilateral relations, latest regional developments and issues of mutual concern.

The message was delivered by Saudi Ambassador here Sheikh Abdulla Sudeiri.

Saudi message

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed received a message yesterday from his Saudi counterpart Prince Saud Al Faisal.

The NHA senior official said the authority was planning to proceed with the demolition of these houses as part of its next Five Year Housing Plan. He added that these houses would be replaced by new blocks of government housing also according to the plan.

Complaint over KD100 fine per month

ACCORDING to a Kuwaiti daily a large number of citizens and expatriates have complained that the KD100 fine for each month the residence permit is overdue is too strict a penalty. Some also complained that the KD10 fee for yearly residence permit renewal was too high, while others said this was a fair amount which could be considered as a contribution toward the cost of services provided by the state for citizens and expatriates.

Owners of companies said that they will be obliged to pay large amounts to the Ministry of the Interior each year when they renew employees' residence permits and asked that these charges be reconsidered.

that their applications had been in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour since November without being completed.

The lack of coordination between the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the Ministry of the Interior was cited as a problem by many which interfered with the speed of completing applications for workers in the private sector.

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Perfume business worth about KD11m annually

THE perfume industry is considered a modern and advanced industry in many countries, according to a local newspaper.

This industry has become an important source of income for a number of countries, such as France and Italy.

In Kuwait, people use large quantities of perfumes, and a source at the local perfume market estimated the business at about KD11 million annually.

The source told the newspaper that women in Kuwait bought nearly 70 per cent of the total imported perfumes.

Statistics published by the Planning Ministry showed that 732,000 women living in Kuwait bought perfume worth about KD10.3m annually.

The large purchase of perfumes by women in Kuwait was due to the high individual income, the hot climate and the type of food consumed by residents. Most people in Kuwait eat fatty foods containing great amounts of spices, onions and garlic which cause strong secretions of perspiration that need strong perfumes to mask.

Many perfume merchants said there was a great demand in spite of the high prices.

One merchant, George Ayash, said France headed the list of countries exporting perfumes to Kuwait, followed by Italy.

He said that consumers preferred to buy strong perfumes because they lasted longer. Women's perfumes account for 75 per cent of sales.

Prices began rising in 1988, with the increase ranging between 15 to 20 per cent.

He said that demand for perfumes dropped by about 25 per cent during 1987 compared to 1986.

Many customers asked for cheaper perfumes, specially in the KD5 to KD7 price range, he said.

A beauty expert with experience in the perfume field, Amni, said that people in Kuwait and the Gulf generally preferred to buy new kinds of perfumes.

She said that people in the middle-income bracket made frequent changes in perfumes, while those with high income tended to keep to one type.



The spirit of Marlboro in a light cigarette.



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THE KUWAITI DANISH DAIRY COMPANY W.L.L.

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Work on next five year plan will begin soon: Dr Awadi

PREPARATIONS for the 1990/91-1994/95 five year plan will begin shortly, the Undersecretary of the Planning Ministry and general coordinator of the State Development plan, Dr Abdul Hadi Al Awadi, said yesterday.

He said that contacts between different sectors in the state to work out the general goals of the next five year plan and the detailed objectives of the various sectors would begin within the next four months.

He added that the development of Kuwait manpower would be given top priority and greater attention paid to productivity of Kuwaitis and expatriates.

Dr Al Awadi told a local newspaper that the Planning Ministry

still needed a lot of cooperation from the various government ministries and departments in executing the current five year plan.

He pointed out that Kuwaiti society has many more challenges specially that of increasing productivity, balancing the population and manpower structure, and paying greater attention to training and education.

Manpower

He said that replacing non-Kuwaitis by Kuwaiti manpower was a long term process that still required much effort in training and qualifying Kuwaitis. He said the various government ministries and establishments had started paying greater attention to the planning process which he considered the greatest

achievement. He said the Planning Ministry was working out ideas for state officials on the importance of planning, adding that the ministry received a positive response from the officials.

He said the ministry was currently evaluating the implementation of the current development plan, including the degree to which the plan had been implemented and the obstacles it faced, as well as studying the experiments of other countries in this field. Kuwaiti delegations visited England, Canada and Egypt to study their experiments in this field.

Population

Dr Al Awadi said the main difficulty in the five year plan was caused by the drop in oil prices and the resulting drop in

revenue which caused continuous deficits in the state budget. He said the plan aimed at creating a balance between expenditure and revenue.

He said the development plan also aimed at tackling the population structure, adding that expatriates formed 60 per cent of the population and 81 per cent of the government and private workforce. But he admitted this problem could not be solved within five years, and might require development plans until 2000.

He said the Planning Ministry was now being provided with periodical reports on the progress of the development plan from 48 ministries and government establishments once every six months. This formed a good base for planning, he said.



The ambassador-designate of Denmark (right) yesterday presented a copy of his credentials to Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Proceeds will be sent to people

in occupied areas

Hanna K opens

By Lima Al Khalafawi

A FILM, Hanna K, opened yesterday at the Al Salimiya Cinema, to focus support for the uprising in the occupied areas and to commemorate the struggle of the past 40 years.

It opened under the patronage of Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah, who deputised the assistant under-secretary for culture, press and censorship affairs, Hamad Al Roumi.

A ladies committee was formed by members of the Palestinian Women's Union to coordinate

and collect funds.

A large number of people attended the show yesterday.

Focussed

Proceeds are to be donated to people in the occupied land.

The film is directed by Costa Gavras, who focussed on a strong Arab presence in the occupied territories and expressed the agony and dilemma of the Palestinian individual in the occupied territories.

The film emphasises the reality of the Palestinians in contrast to the fanaticism of the Jews.

Barges holds contacts to highlight uprising

GENEVA, Feb 13, (Kuna): President of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (Fana) Bargees Hmoud Al Bargees held intensive contacts here today with officials of the International Red Cross and the International Committee on Human Rights.

The Fana approach to the world organisations was in part of a plan intended to secure the best media coverage of the current Palestinian uprising against the Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Bargees, who is accompanied by Fana's Secretary General Farid Ayyar, conferred with Chairman of the 44th session of the Human Rights Committee Ailon Seni and later with senior international Red Cross officials.

Bargees said after the encounter with Seni, the meeting meant to initiate dialogue with the committee for agreeing on the best way to highlight decisions and recommendations of the human rights committee regarding the Palestinian uprising and Israeli brutalities.

Positive
Bargees said he told the Human Rights Committee chairman that Arab news agencies were ready to enlist all their capabilities for "objective publication" of the committee's ideas and activities in defence of human rights all over the world.

He said Seni appreciated Fana's initiative calling it a positive step toward stronger cooperation between the two sides.

Bargees expressed satisfaction with the current debates of the Human Rights Committee, saying they have focused on developments in the Israeli-occupied territories "with Israel exercising the perilously repressive measures which breach the most fundamental human rights."

Seni, who is also the Senegal permanent delegate to the United Nations in Geneva, commended efforts of the United Nations to bring to the world's attention the escalating violence in the occupied Arab territories.

The Human Rights Committee chairman cited the recent fact-finding mission to occupied Palestine by assistant UN Secretary General Marrack

Goulding along with other similar efforts.

Seni hoped those UN actions would help halt the vicious circle of violence in the occupied territories, according to Fana president.

Expose

After the meeting with Seni, Fana's two chief executives were joined by Kuwait's permanent UN delegate here Dr Salem Al Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah in attending a session of the Human Rights Committee.

Sideline talks underscored the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories and how the international committee can expose Israel's savage handling of the protests.

In the meeting with senior International Red Cross officials, Bargees outlined proposals for cooperation between Fana and international bodies for shedding more light on developments in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He underlined the need for the Red Cross to provide Arab news agencies with whatever information it has access to concerning treatment of Arabs in Israeli jails as to give the world public opinion "a clear and objective" idea on the subject.

Info-88

KUWAIT'S Info-88 international exhibition opens today afternoon at the International Fairground.

Kuwait's communications ministry is participating in the five-day event with a pavilion which will display several advanced communications and services equipment.

Cooperative conference

THE Seventh Arab Cooperative Conference will be held under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah at the Kuwaiti Regency Palace Hotel on Feb 14, the chairman of the preparatory committee, Barrak Al Noun, said.

He told a local newspaper that the conference will centre on two topics: the activities of cooperative societies and the role of the Union of Cooperative Societies.

He said the cooperative movement had about 157,000 members according to 1986 statistics and shareholders owned about four million shares. He said cooperative organisations were subject to control and supervision of the cooperative department at the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry.

Al Noun considered the cooperative sector as an important pillar of the national economy.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah received yesterday the Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed, the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Sabah and the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Al Rashed.

Sheikh Saad received the Education and Acting Higher Education Minister, Anwar Al Nouri accompanied by the Rector of Kuwait University Dr Abdul Mohsen Abdul Razzak, the Minister of State for Housing Affairs, Nasser Al Roudhan, the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Khalid Al Jassar and the Finance Minister Jassem Al Kharafi.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

US conspiring with Zionists to abort uprising

AN influential Kuwait newspaper charged the American government yesterday of conspiring with the Zionist entity to abort the popular Palestinian uprising, and the daily of the same time expressed belief that official Arab reaction to the upheaval is unsatisfactory.

Al Rai Al Aam stressed that current American diplomatic priorities focus on containing and aborting the uprising rather than pressing the need for a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict that guarantees legitimate national Palestinian rights.

American policies and moves in the region have not changed. They run parallel to the Israeli actions in putting down the uprising," the paper said.

The paper advised the American administration to acknowledge realities in the Middle East that triggered the current popular demonstration.

In its front-page editorial, the newspaper called for "more effective" Arab support in keeping the current momentum of the popular upheaval.

Al Rai Al Aam pointed out that despite the rising tide of protests, Arab frontline states are still keeping their borders with occupied Palestine sealed hindering Palestinian commandos entry.

The paper suggested that Arabs should learn a lesson from the Afghan resistance war which has forced the Soviet Union to announce plans for withdrawing its troops from that country.

The paper emphasised that the Afghan rebels have won the battle against the Soviet occupation Army, estimated at 10,000 soldiers equipped with the most sophisticated weapons.

"But we Arabs still have not realised the impetus which this uprising has given the Palestinian revolution, and the jolt it has given the Zionist entity," the paper said.

Concluding, the paper exhorted Arab frontline states to allow cross-border Arab commando attacks on the Zionist entity, and said this only would sound the death knell of the Israeli entity.



• The US Ambassador Nathaniel Howell (left) opened the Sixth American Film Festival in Kuwait last night at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry auditorium. The Film Festival, organised jointly by the Cine Club and the American Embassy, will continue till Feb 17. Am'r Tamimi, a board member of the Cine Club is also seen in the picture.

Kuwait capable of defending itself: Saud

KUWAIT is capable of defending itself and has not sought protection from any other country, the Kuwaiti Ambassador in Washington Sheikh Saad Nasser Al Sabah said in an interview published in Kuwait yesterday.

The ambassador asserted that Kuwait has adopted a double-tier defence strategy of self-reliance in the first place and collaboration with GCC states and stability.

Sheikh Saud, who was speaking to a Kuwaiti newspaper absolved Kuwait from the responsibility of American naval buildup in the Arabian Gulf.

Turning to Kuwait's arms procurement policies, the diplomat pointed out that Kuwait buys its defence needs from a variety of sources with the primary objective being safeguarding national security and stability.

Succeed

Renewing Kuwait's neutrality in the Iran-Iraq war, the envoy expressed hopes that the UN Security Council would succeed in halting the conflict as soon as possible.

"We have not played the role of a mediator, nor have we side with a country against another," the ambassador went on.

He urged Iranian officials to desist from making fresh threats and provocations against Kuwait, and called on Tehran to accept international peace calls to end the bloodshed.

Sheikh Saud said the Palestinian cause in the US has gained new American public sympathy as a result of the uprising in occupied Palestine, and thanks to good American press coverage of the demonstrations.

The upturn, he went on, brought into light the sufferings of Palestinians living under the yoke of Israeli military occupation.

555-FIRST CLASS VALUE



Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

GOING PLACES

The Resort shaping up

By Keith Wells

KD400 a year, but couples will only be charged KD430. Couples can also get a three month membership for just KD125. Tennis membership is even cheaper, KD250 a year for a couple.

"We're aiming for a family atmosphere, so there will be special rates if the whole family joins. We really want to encourage expat ladies to join the Resort since we're convinced that they will appreciate our superb facilities and the relaxed, exclusive atmosphere."

As part of his campaign to get new members the Resort is introducing special rates for nurses and diplomats and group membership for companies. "We are also considering the idea of a special 'Health' morning for ladies, we'll collect them in our own bus, then, after a morning of swimming, aerobics, sauna and massage, we'll take them home

again."

The Resort facilities already include tennis courts currently being resurfaced, a jacuzzi, sauna, steam room and a Fitness Centre complete with aerobic tapes and plenty of machines to help you lose unwanted pounds. The whole place has been renovated, upgrading the Resort to a level that is equal to anywhere else in Kuwait.

"I've got lots of ideas for new activities," says Robert, "Plenty of games and competitions with special prizes like a weekend holiday at one of our other Ramada Hotels in Bahrain or Dubai. We'll have marathon swimming, rowing competitions for the kids, moonlight swimming and courses in lifesaving and scuba diving." Robert has also advertised for a jazz dancer aerobics teacher and hopes to make an appointment soon.

"To start with we'll be bringing in new fees, which will be lower than the previous ones," he says. For ladies it'll only cost KD215 for a one-year membership which includes a 25 per cent discount on the poolsides menu. Single men will have to pay



The well-equipped Fitness Centre is just one of the facilities available to Resort members.

(Photos by Mohammad Abbas)

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery

"Kuwait: Studies in Water-colour" is the theme of an exhibition of paintings by American artist Kathleen Stafford. It will be held from Feb 15 at the Sultan Gallery, 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm, for two weeks. The gallery is located near the "Reefs" Royce Tower, Al Soor St.

Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum is open daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, except Friday, when it will be open only in the mornings. A large selection of Islamic artefacts from the Arab and Muslim world are on show.

CINEMA

British Council

The Young Sherlock Holmes and the Pyramid of Fear, a Steven Spielberg production, will be shown tonight at 6.30 pm at the British Council in Mansouriya. Duration: 105 minutes. Admission free but it is advisable to make bookings. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

Films and the Law

Films and the Law is the title of an American film festival, which continues until Feb 17 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The following films will be shown:

Feb 14: *Modern Times*; (1936); director: Charles Chaplin. Starring: Charles Chaplin, Paulette Goddard. One of the all-time greatest, a sensational one-man show by Chaplin, writing, directing, producing, scoring and starring in this saga of "everyman" in all times. It is the story of a tramp who moves from factory worker to department store janitor to singing waiter, as modern times knock him cruelly about. Duration: 87 minutes.

Feb 15: *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*; (1974); pm.

director: John Korty, starring Cicely Tyson, Odetta, Michael Murphy, Collin Wilcox. One of the best movies ever made for American TV. Cicely Tyson won an Emmy award for her performance in the role of a 110 year-old woman who was an ex-slave, and lived to take part in a civil rights demonstration in 1962. Miss Jane is a fictional character but the incidents are based on real events that took place throughout the South after the Civil War. Adapted from Ernest J. Gaines novel. Duration: 100 minutes.

Feb 16: *All the King's Men*; (1950); director: Robert Rossen; starring Broderick Crawford, Mercedes McCambridge, John Ireland, Joanne Dru, John Derek. Oscar winner as the Best Film of 1950. One of the best films on the rise and fall of a politician. Broderick Crawford won an Oscar as Best Actor while Mercedes won in the Supporting Actress category. Duration: 109 minutes.

Feb 17: *The Best Man*; (1964); director: Franklin Schaffner; starring Cliff Robertson, Henry Fonda, Lee Tracy. Based on Gore Vidal's perception and outspoken play, it deals with the hot-and-heavy fight between two leading contenders of the Presidential nomination of their party. One of the best American movies about politics. Duration: 102 minutes.

All films will be shown at 7.30 pm promptly. Children will not be allowed inside the auditorium. The festival has been organised by the American Embassy in Kuwait in tandem with Kuwait Cine Club.

THEATRE

KLT

Kuwait Little Theatre (KLT), Ahmadi, will hold auditions for the Summer Musical at its premises at 7.30 pm on Feb 16 and 19. Backstage helpers also needed. For further details contact 3985246 after 3 pm.

It All Happens At The Meridien



A choice of restaurants, superb cuisine, soothing atmosphere and impeccable service are all synonymous with the Meridien's tradition. Whether a quick snack at Al Fingan, business lunch at Versailles or candle-lit buffet dinner in the Brasserie you can be assured that whatever your choice you'll leave satisfied.

Le
MERIDIEN
KUWAIT
TRAVEL COMPANION OF AIR FRANCE



● Jacques Mitterrand, a younger brother of the French President Francois Mitterrand, recently visited Kuwait. Above: Jacques Mitterrand (second left) is pictured with the Kuwait Meridien Hotel's management (L-R): Resident Manager Fahd Abusher, Public Relations Manager Yousef Al Ghabra and Anne Laugel.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus

Zaman Hathem Zahran (Arabic)

Starring: Noor Al Sharif, Noora

Al Salmiya

Hamma K.

Starring: Jill Clayburg

Al Hamra

Shahenshah (Hindi)

Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Meenakshi Seshadri

Drive-In

Al Nimir Wal Una (Arabic)

Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Al Firdous

Shahenshah (Hindi)

Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Meenakshi Seshadri

SPORTS

At the Continental

Gardenia offers food and beverage service on the Terrace. Daily dinner buffet and on Fridays lunch buffet with charcoal grilled specialties. Darbar features daily lunch buffet and a la carte for dinner.

At the Ramada Al Salam

Eld Bendar Coffee Shop offers daily lunch; chef's specialities featuring everything from soups to desserts.

At the SAS

Experience the exotic charm of the Orient at Tuesday's Sahrat Al Kheima — Oriental Night — in The Tent. An Arabian bazaar features perfumes, jewellery, clothes, rugs and other items. Buffet dinner, live music and raffle prizes.

FILMS

Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club

Full-scale practice match tonight (Sunday). All players must report to the ground by 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm kickoff.

Raft Race

Raft Race 1988; entry forms and rules are now available from the Messilah Beach Hotel. First captain's meeting at MBH, Al Foz Suite, on March 1, 6.30 pm. For further details contact the hotel, ext. 712/751/705.

Filipino Non-Pro

Bowling League

This week's match is on Friday (Feb 18), 6 pm to 8 pm; between Pasay City and Paranaque; it will be held at the Club 300.

Boys Own Club

The third seven-a-side football tournament takes place on Feb 19 at Al Soor Grounds. Draw will be held at 7 am and the first game begins at 7.30 am. All teams wishing to participate contact Joe D'Souza — Tel: 4813622/25 ext. 147.



TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

2. 15 Holy Quran

2.30 World News via Satellite

3.30 Ibtal Al Ma'aeb cartoon

4.00 News Summary

4.05 Magazine D'Actualite

4.25 Ghayoom Bila Matar: Daily historical serial; starring Mahmoud Abu Ghareeb, Abeer Essa, Rashida Al Dajani.

5.30 Al Manahal: children's serial, featuring Amal Dabbas, Tayseer Attiya, Rabea Shihab.

6.00 Songs in Arabic

6.10 News Summary

7.05 Soora Min Al Tibbia: documentary

7.30 Diwaniyat Shura Al Nabt: poetry session

8.15 Good Evening and Local News

9.00 News in Arabic

9.50 Rabee'a Fi Al Aasifat: ep. 4: Arabic serial, featuring Abdullah Ghaith,

Madhiha Hamdi. Variety Show featuring the Iraqi folkloric troupe which took part in the 1987 Jerash Festival.

11.50 News Summary

11.55 World News via Satellite

12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran

6.10 Lone Ranger: "Yellowstone Conspiracy." The Lone Ranger's adventures continue for young viewers.

6.30 Butterfly Island: "What Are Friends For." The children learn the difference between jealousy and love.

7.00 Understanding Islam: a weekly local show on Islam.

7.30 The Wacky World of Sports: a wacky look at sporting events.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Hot Shots: "Tails? You Lose."

9.30 Foley Square: "Courtship." A new employee in the office wins Molly's confidence; and Alex shows interest in Josh.

10.00 Q.E.D.: "How To Succeed Without Trying."

10.30 Best-Seller: "Space." This week sees the start of a new best-seller, set in Nazi Germany. It tells the story of a scientist who experiments unsuccessfully with space rockets and is harassed by the government.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

AL MULLA GROUP

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We are seeking a well qualified Secretary who has a minimum 3 years of working experience. The position is at our head office in Kuwait City.

The successful candidate must have a high level of proficiency in typing and shorthand, excellent communication skills in English and an ability to work with Directors and Managers at a senior management level. Proficiency in the use of a word processor is essential. A transferable residence permit (Article 18) is necessary. Salary commensurate with experience.

Send resume with covering letter and telephone contact to:
The Personnel Manager,
P.O. Box 177,
13002 Safat Kuwait.

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XEROX 1005 Colour Copier

The XEROX 1005 is designed to bring the benefits of colour to a wide range of applications. Its features have been developed to give it the maximum versatility in handling business information of all kinds.

Up to 99 copies can be selected with the assurance that the last will be just as good as the first. Copy quality is automatically controlled by computer. A zoom control gives enlargement up to 141% and reduction down to 65%.

Other features: • Output options: Plain paper or transparencies. Full colour or 12 monocolours. • Speed: 5 copies per minute, all sizes.

• Additional filter for pastels. • Key to prevent unauthorised use.

XEROX 1025 Copier

A versatile all rounder that can be a desk copier or a stand-mounted

Its zooming and enlarging capabilities allow you to use different sizes of paper. Ten pin sorter/collator is optional. Easily changeable coloured ink cartridges (red, blue, green, brown) produce highly visible copies with impact. Tone density control gives you consistent results. The Xerox 1025 will let you make perfect copies even from a poor original.

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THE HIGH QUALITY
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XEROX 7020 Plain Paper Fax

The XEROX 7020 is an advanced facsimile terminal that doubles as a high quality plain paper copier. Its features include:

- Desktop Group 3/Group 2 transceiver

- Automatic speed dialling - 36 one-touch stations plus 63 two-touch stations

- High speed transmission — 18 seconds for CCITT document number 1

- Facilities to programme new jobs while others are being completed

- Automatic confirmation of transmission

- Automatic transmission reduction, selectable automatic receive reduction.

RECEIVER & SENDER

INTEGRATED

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A LOVER who reasons is no lover — Norman Douglas, English writer (1868-1952)

OPINION

Support uprising to keep it active

ALL those who have addressed the Palestinian question can now wipe out their past mistakes. They must now totally support the Palestinian uprising inside the occupied territories.

Leaflets distributed in Palestine have made it clear that there is a new leadership to direct the uprising. At present the leadership is unknown, which is an important feature and an advantage for the uprising because the true resistance is not an elegant or public leadership.

We must now support this uprising in order to keep it active. Israel faces many problems which it has not faced in 40 years. Israel has usually combated the resistance in Lebanon, Yemen or Tunisia; always a safe distance from the fire. Israel has advantageously always acted as the aggressor.

The situation is different now. The resistance has been launched by all Palestinians, including the children. So far, the resistance has not included the use of arms, so Israel faces a situation it is unaccustomed to.

Israel thought it was beyond such situations, thinking it had frightened its opponents, especially with its ally, the US at her back.

Israel defeated the Arab countries during the 1967 war, invaded and destroyed Lebanon in the '80s, reached the Iraqi nuclear reactor and supported Iran against Iraq. By these acts Israel thought it had created sufficient fear that no one would dare move in the occupied territories.

Now, Israel faces a true debacle, more effective than the Arab war of 1967. It is a debacle which yields fruit on the regional and international level.

The continuation of the Palestinian uprising presents Israel with two options: to kill all Palestinians inside the occupied territories, or to accept international demands to establish a Palestinian state.

Israel cannot accept the first option because it knows that by killing more Palestinians the uprising will blaze even brighter. Israel is talking of self-determination, which is a retreat to its old position. But this retreat, as the Egyptian President said, has come too late. The uprising has changed concepts, and although talk of self-determination may have been acceptable eight years ago, it is unacceptable at present.

The continuation of the Palestinian uprising places Israel in a situation similar to that which Soviets face in Afghanistan; a position that led a superpower to beg for peace so it could save its skin from the Afghanistan furnace.

Israel now faces a similar, if not more difficult situation. The Palestinian uprising is inside Israel and not at its borders, its flare increases day after day with the murder of more Palestinians.

The only thing required of the Arab world is to support this revolution. We must not have a repeat of 1948 when the Arabs promised to restore the Palestinian's homeland, and then kept them waiting until 60 days ago.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Wide rift exposed

By Oliver Wates

ISLAMABAD, (Reuter): Four days of hectic diplomacy have galvanized the Afghan peace process but exposed a wide rift between the Pakistani and Soviet positions.

"We have started to 'think big,' we expect that the others will do so (too)," Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov told reporters in Islamabad on Thursday.

"Maybe we are moving rather swiftly for some of the other participants in this drama. But we are moving decisively and we hope others will do the same."

Vorontsov was ending two days of talks with Pakistani leaders, during which he hammered home the Kremlin's view that a peace agreement should be signed in March at Geneva as the only way to a lasting peace in Afghanistan.

Pakistan is refusing to sign any accord until a new Afghan government acceptable to both anti-communist rebels and the current Soviet-backed administration is in place.

Compromises

Pakistan shares a long, mountainous border with Afghanistan and three million of the five million refugees who have fled the nine-year-old guerrilla war are living here. Officials in Islamabad say the Pakistani fear is that an agreement which did not end the fighting would leave them high and dry, suffering both the burden of the refugees and the spillover from the fighting.

Pakistan wants a compromise administration to be worked out between the rebels and President Najibullah's People's Democratic Party (PDPA) before the Soviet withdrawal.

"From Pakistan's viewpoint any solution which does not ensure conditions of peace and security and an end to strife will be no more than half a solution," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Thursday.

But diplomatic sources said Vorontsov, the first senior Soviet official to visit for more than a

US hopes Palestinian uprising will open up new opportunities for peace

Wild card Robertson makes life difficult for Bush

THE presidential primary elections, a peculiarly American political obstacle race to determine the candidate who should represent the Democratic and Republican parties in the final contest for the presidency, began with a surprise.

Every poll correctly predicted the winners of the caucus in the state of Iowa — Senator Bob Dole and Congressman Richard Gephardt — but none predicted that Pat Robertson, a television evangelist, would come in second and well ahead of Vice President George Bush. The candidate who lost the most votes to Robertson was Bush.

What does this mean?

If

Robertson continues to rob the Vice President of votes, as he did in Iowa, he would effectively help Dole to become the Republican candidate for the presidency.

Persuasive

What makes Robertson a "wild card," as they say in the game of poker, is his "invisible army," as it has been dubbed, the people who for years have been listening to his religious television broadcasts. They believe in his teachings, politically conservative with a strong emphasis on family values. Iowa is essentially a liberal state and yet the conservative Robertson did well. He obviously is a persuasive speaker who knows how to use the medium of television. That's why he remains a "wild card" in the next primary elections.

In

Tuesday's New Hampshire primary Bush leads in the polls. The big question mark is whether the results of Iowa will hurt him there: If he ends up well ahead of Dole, his chances for the nomination remain strong because he is likely to win in the south.

But if he wins by only a narrow margin and Robertson again scores inroads, his prospects will decline sharply. And if he loses, he might as well give up the race.

If he manages to stay in the race, he will find Robertson a growing problem because his strength is in the Middle West and the south.

Of course, the more attention

focuses on Robertson the more

he will come under public scrutiny. Fundamentalist preachers have aroused deep suspicions, his audiences, for instance, behave as if they were in church, they shout hallelujah at the end of his speeches which political audiences normally do not do. He has, therefore, begun to soften his religious image. He does not refer to himself anymore as a preacher or a man of God, but as a "Christian businessman."

Hard

The race among the Democrats is much harder to analyse. The three men in sharp competition are Richard Gephardt, who won Iowa, Senator Paul Simon, who came in second and Governor Dukakis. Iowa was almost home territory for Gephardt. His state of Missouri borders on Iowa, it is primarily rural and working class and he spent about three years campaigning there.

Governor Dukakis of Massachusetts will probably do as well in New Hampshire as Gephardt did in Iowa, maybe better.

Simon, most likely, will have a hard time from now on to stay in second place, as he did in Iowa.

Senator Albert Gore is waiting and the reporters — there were 3,000 of them to cover the caucus in Iowa — spend vast sums of money on hotels, advertising, restaurants, communications. And which state would want to forgo those few weeks every four years in the sun?

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and the reporters — there were 3,000 of them to cover the caucus in Iowa — spend vast sums of money on hotels, advertising, restaurants, communications. And which state would want



Skiing is bad for the landscape and wildlife, says the World Wildlife Fund which is fighting against any expansion in slopes.

Skiing causes environmental headache

By Peter Conradi

OBERSAXEN, Switzerland, (Reuter): As holiday skiers across Europe head for the Alpine slopes, a debate rages in the valleys below on the environmental consequences of a favourite Swiss pastime.

Dowhill skiing may be fun, but environmentalists say it upsets the delicate balance between Alpine flora and fauna and attracts thousands of fans whose cars clog the roads and kill trees with their exhaust fumes.

Downhill skiing may be fun, but Swiss environmentalists say it upsets the delicate balance between Alpine flora and fauna and attracts thousands of fans whose cars clog the roads and kill trees with their exhaust fumes.

isn't making any decision on skiing of vital importance for all — from those in large, well-known resorts like St Moritz or Davos down to 'two-lift towns' like Obersaxen.

Already, partly under the influence of the environmental lobby, cantonal authorities have moved to slow the growth in lift and slopes which expanded rapidly in the boom years of the 1960s and 1970s.

But Marco Hartmann, head of the cantonal tourist board, says a complete standstill is impossible: "We cannot live with zero-growth."

Brandenburger says the curb on lift and slope building threatens the survival of nearby villages which need to bring money and jobs to their community. "Without tourism, these villages are faced with extinction," he says.

Obersaxen itself plans to build 50 more holiday homes, and could, he believes, do with another three hotels.

But environmentalists are not content with the limits on building announced by authorities and are concerned they

demonstrators climbed trees due to be cut down on the world championship ski course — have further brought the issue to public attention.

Research by the WWF and others shows the carving out of fresh slopes severely disrupts the soil, plants and animals, while skiers leaving the marked slopes can scare away wildlife.

Mueller described how whole colonies of marmots and other mountain animals have been wiped out by the onslaught of slope-clearing bulldozers.

Good

In Graubuenden, where public transport is not good, skiing also leads to a massive inflow of vehicles.

The problem has been exacerbated by last month's completion of a motorway link with Switzerland's largest city, Zurich, now just over an hour and a half from many resorts. Tourist numbers are expected to increase by around 10 per cent as a consequence.

Environmentalists like Mueller have been long concerned about what they see as the harmful effects of skiing.

But in Switzerland, where worries about pollution and dying trees are hot political issues, the subject has now begun to seize public attention.

Government reports have outlined the damage done by so-called 'off-piste' skiers, those who leave the regular marked slopes, and also of snow-cannons, machines used to produce snow when there is a shortage of the real thing.

Protests by environmentalists — including an incident last year at Crans Montana when

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SNIPPETS

Marcos daughter very ill



Mrs Imee Manotoc: needs medical care.

HONOLULU (AP) — Mrs Imelda Marcos says her daughter, Mrs Imee Manotoc, desperately needs medical care in the United States, but a Philippine official said the move might be a ploy to avoid an investigation into alleged corruption during former President Marcos's rule, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin reports.

"I'm pleading for help for my very sick daughter," Mrs Marcos said. "I don't know where to turn."

Saudi envoy clarifies report

THE Saudi Arabian ambassador to the Philippines clarified a report that said his government will not support the Moro National Liberation Front's bid for membership in the Organisation of Islamic Countries.

Fouad Hassan Faki said individual-member countries of the OIC cannot decide on their own on the issue, adding that the Muslim body settles issues "by consensus." The OIC is set to meet March this year to decide on the MNLF application for membership.

The OIC, he said, is a gathering of Muslim governments. The OIC decision embodied in the 1976 Tripoli Agreement considers the MNLF problem an "internal" one which should be settled within the realm of the Philippines.

Caltex sued by Dona Paz owners

CALTEX Philippines, Inc. was included in the amended complaint filed by Sulpicio Lines, Inc. for recovery of its losses and damages in connection with the M/V Dona Paz and M/T Vector collision.

In its amended complaint, Sulpicio Lines alleged that the M/T Vector carried cargo of gasoline, kerosene and crude oil which was "responsible for the explosions and damages" caused to the M/V Dona Paz.

Sulpicio Lines further alleged that the M/T Vector was navigating from Limay, Bataan bound for Masbate, heavily laden with gasoline, diesel, kerosene and other flammable products owned by the defendant Caltex, without navigational sidelights in a grossly unseaworthy condition rendering it a moving hazard to safe navigation."

Witness in Ninoy murder case robbed

A KEY witness in the Aquino-Galman double murder case said yesterday that 40 men in military uniform barged into his house in Antipolo, Rizal, last Dec 3, robbed him of P89,000 in cash and jewellery, and then kidnapped his business associate.

In a complaint filed before the Rizal PC command, Jessie Barcelona, 30, a Philippine Airlines (PAL) ground equipment operator, said that the men robbed him of P31,000 in cash and jewellery worth P58,000.

Barcelona said that he was not in his house in situ Kay-Ada, barangay San Isidro, Antipolo, when the robbery took place.

The armed men, Barcelona said, found his business associate, Ponciano Cunanan, and threatened to kill him if he will not tell Barcelona's whereabouts.

Visions due to hunger, says Sin

PEOPLE who see visions of God and the Virgin Mary should try eating more, Jaime Cardinal Sin said.

Sin's remark came after newspapers reported for a second day that crowds of worshippers had seen such visions.

"When you are hungry, you see visions. So my first advice is to eat. When you are not hungry, you will not see visions," Sin Manila's archbishop, told journalists. (Reuter)

Military approach alone cannot solve communist insurgency

Security situation 'not very good': Ramos

By Cesar M. Espino

DEFENCE Secretary Fidel V. Ramos admitted that the security situation in the country was "not very good" although the military has been inflicting more casualties on the communists.

His admission came a day after Gen. Renato S. de Villa, AFP chief of Staff, said the New People's Army is now 25,000-strong. Hours earlier, armed forces spokesman Col Oscar Florendo stuck to military claims that the NPA only had 23,000 men, 15,000-16,000 of whom are fully-armed regulars.

The security situation, Ramos said in reply to a question at a press conference, "is still not very good. It is very bad in some places, but it is improving in many places."

But he added that he expects the situation to improve after the

last phase of the local elections this month. The final phase of the Jan 18 polls will be the elections in Sulu on Feb 15.

De Villa, for his part, said that despite the reported massing of communist urban guerrillas in Metro Manila, there is "no way" they can fight openly in the streets.

"We will annihilate them if they come out in the open. No way they can do that," de Villa said.

He also said the military has identified the leader of the Alex Boncaya Brigade, a unit of New People's Army urban guerrillas, nicknamed Sparrows, operating in Metro Manila. The ABB has claimed responsibility for the killing of some 150 soldiers and policemen in a series of ambushes last year.

Dr Villa downplayed the military's own account on the number of Sparrows in the metropolis.



Ramos: total approach needed.

"The presence of liquidation teams in Metro Manila may be 100 now, 20 tomorrow or 200 the next day. What happened in Metro Manila is the CPP/NPA made it an open city for all units of the NPA and, therefore, people from the provinces come and

go," he said.

De Villa added that the rebels mostly come from Bulacan, Pampanga and Batangas in the north and Quezon in the south.

The military Tuesday said it had pinpointed 19 areas in the metropolis being used by the Sparrows as "nests" but did not say whether they had moved to confirm rebel presence in those areas.

Ramos said the government is working hard to complete the setting up of Peace and Order Councils in the provincial and municipal levels. The councils will oversee civilian participation in the counterinsurgency drive.

Ramos said that military approach alone can not solve the 20-year communist insurgency. He said the government will need a "total approach" that must include all sectors of society.

Once all the government agencies involved are in place, Ramos said, the country can expect more

results. "We are about ready to go all out, although we have gone all out in some places," Ramos said, apparently referring to areas where there are working Peace and Order Councils.

Ramos said the military has responded vigorously to President Aquino's call for an intensification of the offensive against the rebels.

Citing a report from the defence department's operations monitoring centre, Ramos said there were 196 insurgency-related violent incidents in January, 125 of which were initiated by the military.

He said the clashes resulted in the death of 168 rebels. Soldiers suffered 61 killed during the same period.

The report said that Bicol, where rebels scored against the government last year, registered the most number of insurgency-related incidents last month.

Aquino accused over human rights

By Humphrey Hawksley

A NEW Philippines' human rights group, the National Movement for Civil Liberties, accused President Aquino of having allowed human rights violations to go on unchecked in her attempt to defeat the communist insurgency.

But the movement, a coalition of about 100 organisations, which was holding its founding congress in Manila, is unlikely to have any impact on the Government's new hard-line policy: the authorities have already branded many of its organisers as communists.

unist sympathisers.

It has, however, highlighted deep divisions within the Catholic Church, with many senior churchmen condemning the Archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Sin, for his statements last week that human rights groups had been infiltrated by communist insurgents.

A Catholic group, the Promotion of Church People's Rights, published an open letter to the Cardinal at the congress, saying it was "gravely disturbed" by his statements. "We are concerned about the dangers your utterances have created for church people and Christians... who, unlike you, have not turned a blind eye to human rights violations under any dispensation," it said.

The opening speakers at the congress accused Mrs Aquino of moving towards "militarism and fascism," and said they were particularly concerned about the creation of civilian vigilante groups.

In a radio broadcast yesterday Mrs Aquino continued her appeals for the public to become involved in the anti-insurgency campaign by asking citizens to help the troops track down urban guerrillas.

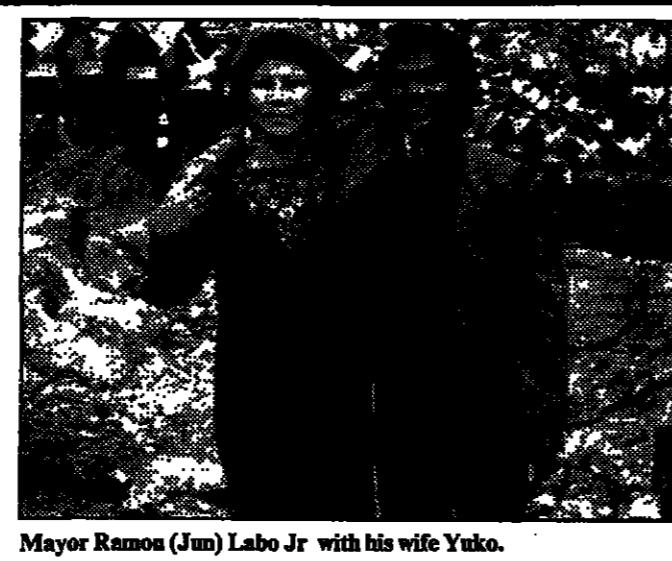
Faith healer becomes mayor of Baguio

By Jaime T. Licancio

FOR the first time in Philippine political history, a faith healer was elected mayor of a first class city, despite the fact that he was a neophyte in politics and ran under a party associated with the sect.

I first met the new Mayor of Baguio City, Ramon (Jun) Labo Jr in late 1979. He was then performing spiritual healing and psychic surgery in a small lodging place near Imelda Park before he transferred to his own headquarter in Nagoya Inn or Naguilian Road. He was introduced to him by a businessman philosopher who was interested in parapsychology. He told me that Jun Labo was a better healer than any other he had seen.

This businessman at first warned me that Jun Labo may be a difficult man to talk because he had a big ego and was suspicious of writers and journalists. But when we finally met, I found him rather amiable and highly approachable. There was, of course, the very evident self-assurance in the man, which could be expected from somebody who has attained such fame and international recogni-



Mayor Ramon (Jun) Labo Jr with his wife Yuko.

tion that he has. I found his personality quite complex and colourful.

I began observing Jun Labo's psychic operations very closely and interviewed many of his patients, most of whom were suffering from some terminal illness conventional medicine could no longer cure. I found him very cooperative and very willing to show me everything I wanted to see.

What I saw in his clinic was enough to convince even the most skeptical observer of the awesome power of this healer. In 1984, after observing literally thousands of Jun Labo's amazing psychic operations, I wrote the book, Jun Labo, A Philippine Healing Phenomenon, which has now been translated into both German and Japanese languages. Labo is credited with having healed at least two heads of state and many other prominent international personages.

Labo ran for a seat in the Batasang Pambansa and lost. His political adversaries circulated humorous stories and jokes about him, tending to portray him as uneducated and dumb. But these are not true. I find Labo to be possessed with a big tourist attraction.

Plans as mayor

Now that he is mayor of no less

than the Summer Capital of the Philippines, will he still continue his healing practice?

When I posed this question to him several years ago, Labo's reply was that he cannot forsake the gift that God has given to him.

He said he would still continue healing during weekends when he is not needed at City Hall. He has also promised to donate his entire salary as mayor to the city.

What will Baguio City be like with a charismatic faith healer as mayor? Perhaps, the same way that Carmel by the Sea in California is like with movie actor Clint Eastwood as mayor—a big tourist attraction.

Many diplomats claim refugee status

By Alberto M. Alfaro

WASHINGTON D.C.— The Philippine foreign service is suffering from a brain drain.

Easy immigration rules and better economic prospects have encouraged foreign affairs personnel and members of the attaché services to stay in the countries where they were assigned instead of going back to Manila after they were recalled.

Since 1970 an estimated 1,000 foreign service officers, foreign service staff officers, clerk attaches and their assistants have taken advantage of US immigration laws that allow them to remain in the United States legally. Some countries in Europe have also liberal rules on diplomats seeking a change of status.

Although the drain may have helped ease unemployment in Manila, the government is losing millions of pesos in training these skilled members of the diplomatic service who choose to remain in foreign countries.

Several years ago the Department of Foreign Affairs tried to stem the flow by making it hard for diplomats assigned abroad to remain there. New DFA rules

made it hard for them to buy houses or for their family members to work in foreign countries. But adverse reaction from the diplomatic service forced the DFA to amend the rules.

Foreign diplomats assigned in the US can avail themselves of two provisions in the immigration law to be able to remain here. One provision allows embassy and consular personnel performing diplomatic functions to change their status to permanent residents. But the big number of applicants for the yearly quota of 50 has created a backlog that goes back to 10 years.

The provision most diplomats now use is Section 13, which allows them to claim political refugee status. Under this provision, any Filipino can remain in the US simply by presenting proof that he will be persecuted for his political beliefs if he returns to his home country.

The biggest batch of Filipino political refugees came from the ranks of former diplomats and attachés who were in the US when President Marcos declared martial law in 1972 and after the人民 power uprising in 1986.

The US Washington DC embassy, for instance, the most

notable officers who had chosen to remain in the US after EDSA were Consul Ricardo Marasigan, Bureau of Internal Revenue Attaché Delfin Castro, Labour Attaché Alfredo de la Rosa, Press Attaché Reynaldo Naval and Media Attaché Boots Aison Roa. Others, former officials who have availed themselves of Section 13 are Eugenio Ramos, Prudencio Europa, David Baquiran, Jaime Viray and Esperanto Curamig. Other personnel assigned to Philippine embassies in New York, the United Nations, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Houston and New Orleans have also sought refuge under this provision.

The incessant government crackdown on Marcos and his followers has given some former diplomats the excuse to claim refugee status. These "defectors" have now formed the core of anti-Aquino forces in the US capital to strengthen their status as political refugees. This has prompted the Philippine embassy into launching a counter-propaganda campaign by hiring public relations agencies here and claiming that the new opposition is being funded by Marcos from Hawaii.

When a former diplomat applies for political refugee status, he and his family are immediately granted work permits until the state department and the Immigration and Naturalisation Service decide on his application. Because of the backlog of undecided cases, it takes from two to five years for these offices to make the decision. Even after the application is rejected, many Filipinos remain in the US illegally.

Another reason that compelled some of these diplomats to remain is the unsettled political situation in the Philippines. In fact, some of the families of former ranking embassy and consular officials had been recalled to the home office. "This is an insurance that if anything happens in Manila, I can easily flee and join my family here," says a diplomat who is now in the US illegally.

He stressed that it is very bad when children get infected because they are the ones who become chronic carriers of the disease.

million babies delivered per year, more than 51,000 infants get infected in the first year of life while 13,846 become effective carriers.

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Fun and frolic at Flassik's Valentine's ball

Oh! what a night

By Lima Al Khalafawi

Valentine Day was celebrated by an enthusiastic crowd at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel Friday night.

The dinner cum musical evening organised by the Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait (Flassik) was attended by members of the local Filipino community and other nationalities.

The evening was filled with musical variety, comedy skits and dances performed to rapturous applause. A rock 'n' roll revival performed by the Terpsichoreans was particularly popular.

"It was the first time that I celebrated Valentine's Day in Kuwait," said Kay Tupanam.

At home we usually exchange flowers or cards. Today I received a box of chocolates, said Ms. Tupanam thrilled at her gift.

This year Flassik was instrumental in organising an ambitious show different from the last two years, said master of ceremonies Gil Bangalan.

Dr Ninoy P. Villanueva a radiologist at Mawasat Hospital was named the King of Hearts. The Queen was Isabelle Espiritu, 29-year-old medical technologist at Mawasat Hospital.

Valentine's Day is one of the several activities that Flassik is organising this year, said President of Flassik Aurora Aurellano. Proceeds of the function will finance other project helping Filipinos in Kuwait.

Flassik soon will start other activities such as cooking classes for all nationalities at one of the hotels, as well as language classes.

Aurellano said that Flassik's main achievement this year was their first ever visit to the central prison in order to assess the conditions of the Filipinos there along with officials, with the permission of the Interior Ministry.

The Valentine's Day dinner musical was attended by the Philippine embassy Charge d'Affaires Fortunato Obiena and other embassy officials.

The Filipinos have given a new angle to the traditional Valentine's day celebration in Kuwait leading the way for other enthusiasts to follow soon.

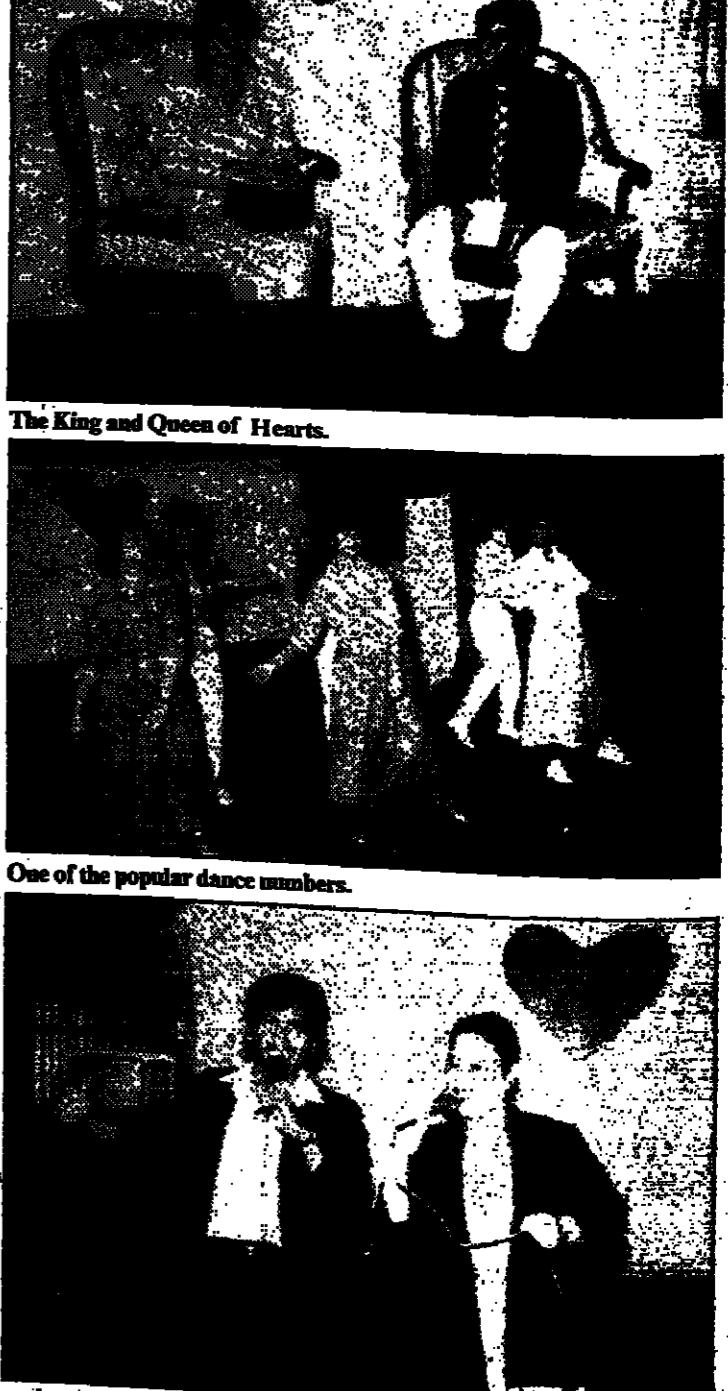


Hello.... is any one out there listening?

Will you be my Valentine?



Let's clasp our hands and dance



A diet for lovers on Valentine's Day.

dip tips

Say it in words

Love poems last longer than chocolates

By Michele Digirolamo

THEY come a time in all relationships when the traditional gift of waxy chocolates in a tacky, neon-pink, pseudo-satin, heart-shaped box plucked off the drug store shelf just won't do the trick on Valentine's Day.

The Feb. 14 holiday, which got its start as a pagan love festival, is the one day a year set aside specifically for those in love or lust to formally celebrate their feelings for each other.

Chances are we have all bestowed upon our special person the time-honored heart of chocolates on Valentine's Day. The more extravagant of us have probably even thrown in a bottle of champagne and

maybe a night on the town. But here is a suggestion for something different, something unique, something more personal than even silky lingerie, something that will last longer than a dozen red roses or the bubbles in dom pérignon.

Write your lover a love poem.

Before thou doth protesteth too much, listen to these suggestions from experts on how to, almost painlessly, turn out a liting verse guaranteed to make your sweetheart swoon.

The first, and most important bit of advice, according to William Matthews, author of seven poetry books, a professor of English at City College in New York and president of the Poetry Society of America, is to keep it short.

"The last thing you want to do is bore the bejesus out of the

beloved," Mathews said. From there, there are several paths you can take, Mathews said.

"You could describe the great value of the beloved, you can describe what you feel like — that elevated and special fervorishness — or you can do things which in one way or another suggest the specialness of your feeling," Mathews said.

For instance, he said, you could make outrageous rhetorical promises such as "I'll love you until the rivers run dry."

"You make a series of unfillable promises in effect," Mathews said. "They are tokens of the special state of perception that love moon, spoon."

On the other hand, there is

another peril — that your amor will not recognise your poem as a poem if the end of each sentence doesn't rhyme.

"If your rule is better safe than sorry, you might want to stick to rhyme," Mathews said. "One advantage of writing in rhyme is sometimes you think of something to say that you would not have thought of in your normal thought process. It can be a spur to invention."

And don't worry if your verse is not up to Shakespeare's standards. If what you have with your partner is true love, it won't matter.

"Fortunately, if the person you are in love with returns the emotions, they'll conventionally accept (your poem)," Mathews said.

"The phrase is, 'it's the

thought that counts.' It's an expression of love. It's a poor lover who upon receiving a love poem immediately sits down to correct your grammar and offer a detailed criticism."

The experts admitted that writing a love poem is not as easy as buying a bauble for your paramour. They also warned that would-be poets should first decide whether their penned offering would be a hit or a miss.

"It depends on whom your loved one is," said Mathews. "If she likes to dance and dress like Madonna, you are likely to get the poem hurled back into your face."

But, he said, a more sensitive lover will "understand that it is a special and highly desirable gift."

If you aren't sure it's love, don't worry, says expert

By Ken Franckling

BOSTON, (UPI): If your mother told you "you'll know" when it's real love, clinical psychologist Judith Sills has some unsettling — or perhaps reassuring — news for you.

Mother lied.

If you aren't sure it's love, don't worry, says Sills, author of "A Fine Romance," a book on single adults and courtship. She says the grand thing about love is its constant uncertainty.

"One day you are sure. Then for a week you are unsure. Then you may be sure for a year or 20 years," she said. "All of those real ingredients of love. The emotional tone of love is ambivalence."

"One of the great myths is that you'll know if it is right, and if you don't feel that electric charge, it isn't love. Another myth is that there is a 'right person.'

Courtship is fun and romantic, but Sills said she has found in her clinical practice in Philadelphia that for many couples, it is also aggravating and a source of pain because of the fear of rejection...

"The myth that is so painful is the myth of romantic love," Sills said. "In a singles bar, we give people seven seconds before deciding yes or no. In General, we give people three dates. The premise of romantic love leaves a lot of people awfully lonely."

Relationship

"Ambivalence in that kind of relationship is the agony of 'do I still love you?' the quality of attachment changes over time.

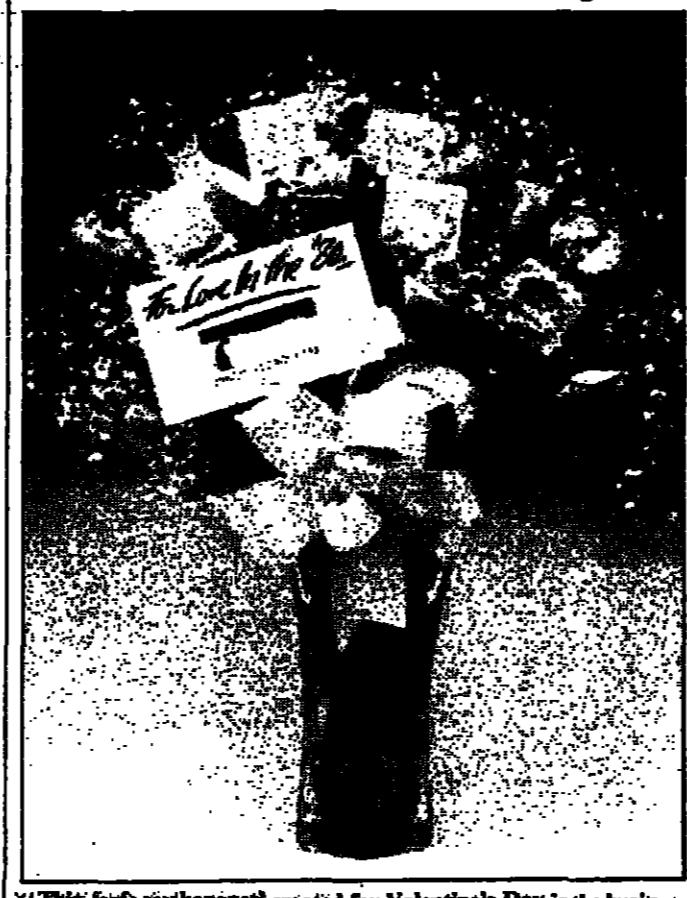
Sometimes it deepens, sometimes it is broken, sometimes it is temporarily broken. But we have a sense that if the bond is strong enough, there is something overriding and more powerful.

The nature of mature love is everlasting. The attachment, and one hopes, the intimacy element of love are strong enough to carry us through."

Sills says all of those elements change over time — "for better, for worse, and sometimes both in the same week."

Even in relatively stable marriages lasting 15 years or more, keeping the romance in a relationship is difficult, she says.

Love — '80s style



This "safe sex" bouquet created for Valentine's Day is the brainchild of a Washington florist. It consists of a dozen roses spiced with baby's breath and a dozen condoms.



Valentine's Day special

TODAY is St Valentine's Day — though which St Valentine is not clear. There are at least two St Valentines on record, one of them a Roman priest who was beheaded in the third century AD. Bits of various St Valentines are found throughout Europe, including two bodies and a head in Spain, a body in Rome and another head elsewhere in Italy. Take your pick! No one's sure how St Valentine came to be the patron saint of romance, but there may be some confusion with the Norman word galentine which means a ladies' man.

Whatever the origin, why not treat yourself or someone special to this Valentine's day cake.

Ingredients

1 cup sugar
3/4 cup butter or margarine (1/2 sticks), softened
2-1/3 cups cake flour
3/4 cup milk
2-1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 eggs
Butter-Cream Frosting
3/4 cup raspberry preserves
2 tablespoons orange-flavoured essence
red and green food colouring

6. Spread top and side of cake with pink butter cream, reserving about 1/3 cup. Spoon white butter cream into decorating bag with coupler and medium ruffle tube; use to pipe double ruffle border around top edge of cake. Using white butter cream in same decorating bag with rosette tube, pipe decorative border around bottom of cake. If cake and/or frosting become very soft, place in refrigerator until firm enough to work with.

7. Into reserved 1/3 cup pink butter cream, stir enough additional red food colouring to tint it deep pink. With decorating bag and small writing tube, pipe pink dots inside ruffle border on top of cake. With decorating bag and small leaf tube, pipe green butter cream to resemble vines and leaves on top of cake. Makes 20 servings. About 473 calories per serving. Butter-cream frosting

In large bowl, with mixer at low speed, beat 4 cups confectioners' sugar, 1 cup butter or margarine (2 sticks), softened, and 1 cup shortening until mixed. Increase speed to high; beat until light and fluffy. At medium speed beat in 4 egg yolks and 2 teaspoons vanilla extract until well blended.

8. In medium bowl, mix about 2-3/4 cups butter cream with enough red food colouring to tint a pretty pink. In cup, mix about 1/3 cup butter cream with enough green food colouring to tint a leaf green. Leave remaining white butter cream in large bowl.

9. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease, then flour three 8-inch heart-shaped cake pans. In large bowl, with mixer at low speed, beat sugar and butter or margarine until just blended. Increase speed to high; beat until light and fluffy. Add cake flour, milk, baking powder, vanilla extract, salt, and eggs; at low speed, beat until blended. Increase speed to medium; beat 1 minute.

10. Spoon batter into pans. Bake 20 minutes or until toothpick inserted into centre of cake comes out clean. Cool cake layers in pans on wire racks 10 minutes. Remove from pans and cool completely on racks.

11. Prepare Butter-Cream Frosting; set aside. In small bowl, stir raspberry preserves with orange-flavour essence.

12. Place 1 cake layer on cake plate; spread with half of raspberry mixture. Top with remaining cake layer.

13. In medium bowl, mix about 2-3/4 cups butter cream with enough red food colouring to tint a pretty pink. In cup, mix about 1/3 cup butter cream with enough green food colouring to tint a leaf green. Leave remaining white butter cream in large bowl.

14. In medium bowl, with mixer at low speed, beat 4 cups confectioners' sugar, 1 cup butter or margarine (2 sticks), softened, and 1 cup shortening until mixed. Increase speed to high; beat until light and fluffy. At medium speed beat in 4 egg yolks and 2 teaspoons vanilla extract until well blended.

Be My Valentine

AS: Do one thing, love me forever.

AT ★ ★ ★
My sweetheart Tina. I wish you all the best and happy Valentine ever loving Shyan.

T. Jam. U-B-Mc-4-B-2-4-Ever.
T. Jug ★ ★ ★

Our everfresh Rose due today to be a Valentine this year and for many more. From Arizona.

To Kmla Reffie. Maybe we made you angry and blue, but we always love you true. Happy Valentine Day, Hossain, Tagouib and Dad.

Coffee, tea or me? Whichever you choose it's going to keep you up all night!

Hatherine Darling.

To Peety Joan, please, please, please forget about B and just one time come with me. You are enchanting.

Venessa, I love you.

Michael.

My Jamoo. I will always be yours lots of love and dappis.

Kookila.

James Mendes. Valentine, I love everything about you except that funny growth on your neck — your swollen fat head.

Whiske Bell.

To Carol Juventillo. Sweetheart, Sweetdarling. Just one touch from your sweet lips your love, first love filled with deep devotion, young love, our love we share with deep emotions. From Arun Barva.

My Big Beef-cake and my little Hyatt. You are my two adorable Valentines! Be mine forever love.

Big Mama.

Cesar: My everlasting love will remain sincere especially this occasion. Commemorating fest of all hearts. You will always be my Valentine.

Grace Cartagenita.

To: B.B.B. Say hi to your mother. From B.W.B.

Miss Diana Alton. I don't know you much, all I know is you're my friend. A special friend.

Roy Blas. Y.A.A.S

You are my Sunshine

Sherif. R. Rodrigues. Sweetheart. The things you say, the things you do, the things you are, are reasons why I love you.

Santana F. Ferro.

Manuel dear, Always near, Never ceasing only loving. Understanding, always smiling. Emmanuel my Valentine so true. Loves Theresa, and Theresa loves you.

Nancy you are the light in my life and my most cherished fine. Won't you be my Valentine.

Richard.

Magnay, Magnay, born yesterday trying to kiss today I am your Valentine.

Your Handsome Husband.

Craig (Mouchel), thank you for the 31 Dec. It was a night I will always remember. Ever grateful.

Happy Valentine (C. Velly). Always wanna be with you. I hope it last for ever. So please don't let me down.

Truey One.

Dear Sabhi. Are u my friend or Valentine? Whatever u may b, for sure 4 R nice. Cute sweet n fine.

Mirra.

Katou, separation is hard, but when there is life, there is hope.

Juan Suja. Thank you for sharing your life and love with me. I love you Saif.

Shabbir Husain.

Darling Bertha, I have been loving and would love you eternally my sweet Valentine.

Francis.

Dearest Clair, Love is measured not in moments of time but in timeless moments. Happy Valentine. I.L.Y David Fernandes.

Darling husband Michael, It's the little thing that made Valentine for you. Specially loving one happy Valentine Day.

Loving wife Monica.

Elizabeth (Naff) you really are decidedly lovely.

An Ardien Admirer.

Heart Line from Pittsburgh to Jacky, Loving Valentine. Greetings you're in my thoughts and heart.

Chris and Jean.

To my darling Jeannie. You are the love of my life. My dreams come true. Millions of kisses.

Omar.

Just wanted to say "Hello" Peril at this time of hearts and flowers. And wish you a Valentine Day that's filled with Cherry, pleasant hours.

Hilary Smith.

Valentine, I want the truth! Would you still like me if I weren't a sex symbol?

Hilary Smith.

Being married to Anita the world's most beautiful woman, I bring her my love today Janne.

M & M Holdings.

I see you from the window out to feed your bow-wow, if you were only mine now.

Sweetest Caroline.

Crossy, you've got me hot and bothered.

She-na.

Audy loves you always remember "forever together".

Decdy.

My dearest wife Juliana, I may not say it everyday but it's always in my mind. Happy Valentines Day. Hubby Mario.

Alosh.

Derek, just because you're an American, Karyn.

Katou, separation is hard, but when there is life, there is hope.

Juan Suja. Thank you for sharing your life and love with me. I love you Saif.

Shabbir Husain.

The girl from Glebe Road from the Boy from the Dene, you are my gorgeous Valentine.

Rudy Valentino.

Chiyeo George, Massimoni: When special people touch our lives the world seems lovelier — thanks for touching my life. Happy Valentines ME.

Robert Morris, you are thought about today and wished a bright and happy Valentines Day warmest wishes.

Someone Special.

Tasneem, my true love Tasneem to my heart you're near my love always be yours.

Shabbir Husain.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

British Airways announces more flights from Gulf

MORE flights to and from the Gulf region with services developed specifically for the Middle East traveller, were the promises made by Lord King of Wartnaby, the British Airways Chairman, in Bahrain last week.

Lord King was speaking to reporters following the meeting of the BA main board held for the first time in the Middle East.

BA flights from Saudi Arabian airports in Riyadh, Jeddah and Dhahran would start in March, he said, taking over the services of British Caledonian.

Increased capacity from Dubai and Muscat will commence around the same time.

By the summer, BA expects to have some 37 frequencies in each direction every week from the Gulf. New services are starting including direct flights from the Gulf to Madras from October 1988.

Downturn

Despite the downturn of business in the Middle East, Lord King said that BA continued to enjoy a high level of success in the region.

The airline's commitment to the Gulf is reflected by the decision to hold the main board meeting in Bahrain, said Lord King. He did not envisage any cut-back in services due to the acquisition of the 747-400 series aircraft.

"For long hauls these planes can bypass a stop in the Gulf," he said. "For this reason other international airlines have been tempted to cut back their services to Gulf destinations."

Services

"On the contrary, BA plans to upgrade our services to the region, taking advantage of the new generation aircraft to have more flights starting or finishing in the Gulf."

"We are very conscious of the importance of this market. This will mean we can develop our services more specifically geared to the demands and expectations of the traveller from the Middle East."

"Already we have Arabic speaking cabin crew, and halal food on our Gulf routes," added Lord King.

Experience

BA anticipates a successful return for the airline to Saudi Arabia. "We have considerable experience of that market and we will be able to offer a large number of feeder gateways in the USA," said the Chairman.

Last year had been a year of challenge for the airline with its privatisation and British Caledonian merger. But new marketing initiatives including a tie-up with United Airlines and launch of the Club World business class has BA looking to the future with confidence.

Coffee prices hit 13-week high

LONDON, Feb 13, (Reuter): News that the world's leading coffee producers shipped below their export quotas in the last three months of 1987 helped push coffee prices to 13-week highs in London yesterday.

The International Coffee Organisation, which tries to bolster prices by imposing export quotas, said producers under-shipped their global export quota by 26 per cent from October to December.

This was mostly due to lagging demand, but the news sparked worries about tightening supplies of high quality coffees.

Dealers said the reports aggravated concerns among coffee roasters about already-tight supplies of coffee from Central America. "Producers would still sell their quota to the coffee trade if they had the coffee (and demand was sluggish), so I think this is an important signal that we have less mild coffees than we thought," a roaster said.

Undershopped

The ICO, which groups the world's top 50 coffee exporting countries and leading 24 importing countries, said its exporting members undershipped by 3.4 million bags of their 13 million bag coffee export quota.

Brazil, the world's largest coffee producer, was the biggest undershopper. Nearly every major coffee producer except Guatemala shipped below its quota, ICO said.

News of the undershipments pushed coffee for May delivery up by \$42 (\$73.50) per tonne to 13-week highs of £1,300 (\$2,275).

Demand by roasters for coffee was sluggish late last year after producers shipped a record 10.3 million bags during September to beat the expected reintroduction of export quotas in October, analysts said.

UK stresses the need to remove trade barriers

Summit accord brightens outlook for EEC

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Feb 13, (AP): A hard-won settlement of its cash crisis has put the European Economic Community on course toward a brighter financial future and a bigger role in the international economy.

The deal also has allowed the group to step back from political stalemate at a time when improved relations between the superpowers have stirred new efforts by Western Europe to reassess its role on the world stage.

Even so, few of the European leaders who worked out the four-point agreement at a summit today were willing to predict how long the new momentum would last.

Accord

"Don't get too cheerful," said British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who has been at the centre of a series of fierce negotiations to limit EEC's biggest farm problems.

Increase

The total budget of the EEC will grow substantially by reapplying the way in which the mem-

ber countries chip in from national treasuries. The new system will gradually make the governments' contributions correspond more closely to their national wealth.

Aid to the group's poorest members will increase by 80 per cent over five years. This serves two main purposes: to put all the members on a more even economic footing and to help the poorer ones cope with stiffer foreign competition once the Common Market has completed its drive to remove all internal barriers to trade by 1992.

Debate

Annual increases in overall farm spending will, for the first time, be strictly limited. Under a new formula, each 10 per cent increase in the EEC's total economic output would allow a 7.4 per cent rise in the budget.

Mrs Thatcher said her approval was conditioned on EEC foreign ministers approving additional controls on farm subsidies. That is expected to

happen soon.

The summit accord was reached in the early hours today after two full days of debate. Two previous EEC summits, last June and December, had failed to bridge gaps between an austerity-minded faction led by Britain and a West German-led group that wanted looser spending controls.

The previous failures had left the Common Market without a formal budget for this year. It was due to run out of money by late summer.

While the immediate crisis now appears to have passed, future harmony is not assured.

A fundamental split remains in the member countries' views about how far the Common Market should go in transforming itself from a trading bloc dealing mainly with economic issues to a true political union.

Britain stresses the need to remove trade barriers between EEC countries in order to give European business a wider "home" market from which to

compete on a global scale with the United States and Japan. The Brussels accord is likely to make this goal more attainable.

Dreams

France and other members want to keep alive the dreams of the EEC's founding fathers: to create a single political entity, a kind of United States of Europe in which the 12 member countries would share, for example, common foreign and defence as well as economic policies.

Reflecting this hope, Jacques Delors, the EEC's chief executive and a former French Finance Minister, told reporters that the significance of the Brussels accord went beyond the issues of budget and agriculture.

"We now have the political tool for the relaunching of the European Union," he said.

Still, the EEC's track record would suggest that new progress toward political integration will come only gradually, and only after new, unforeseen financial crises emerge and threaten serious setbacks.

Saudi money changer set to become 12th kingdom bank

RIYADH, Feb 13, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's biggest money changer is expected to start operations as fully licensed bank within days in a move which will rank it number three in the kingdom, bankers said today.

The Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce will become the 12th bank in Saudi Arabia and is due to operate as a bank from February 18 under the new name Al Rajhi Banking and Investment Corporation.

The change will make it the third largest after National Commercial Bank and Riyad Bank although plans for a public floatation of shares — first scheduled to coincide with the licence change — have been delayed, bankers said.

Operation

The owners of the company, four brothers of the Al Rajhi family, have been trying to convert the operation into a fully licensed Islamic bank since 1983.

Al-Rajhi has 230 branches throughout the kingdom and is estimated to have more than 15 billion riyals (\$4 billion) in customer deposits.

It was previously able to perform most banking functions, but as a money changer was not allowed to make loans.

The new bank will be capitalised at 750 million riyals (\$200 million), with 50 per cent of the shares expected to be retained by the brothers.

World Business Summary

India's exports up, trade deficit down

NEW DELHI, February 13, (Xinhua): India's exports in the first nine months (April-December) of the current financial year recorded a growth of 24.7 per cent to 111.97 billion rupees (\$8.61 billion) when compared with the same period of 1986-87. The import bill, on the other hand, rose by 13.5 per cent to 161.11 billion rupees (\$12.39 billion) in April-December 1987, compared with the corresponding period in 1986. These figures were released by Finance Minister N D Tiwari at a parliamentary consultative committee meeting here yesterday. The trade deficit, thus, declined by 2.97 billion rupees (\$288 million), according to Tiwari. In view of the good performance, Tiwari said the country's export target of 138 billion rupees (\$10.62 billion) fixed for 1987-88 ending March 31 is likely to be exceeded by about 10 billion rupees (\$769 million). At the same time, Tiwari told MPs that there is no complacency on the export front and that efforts are being made to maximise foreign exchange earnings through higher exports. Moreover, appropriate strategies are being evolved to meet stiff international competition in specific markets, he said. He is of the view that the expertise and infrastructure available with the Indian trading communities abroad should be more effectively used to push exports both in the traditional and non-traditional areas. Tiwari announced that the Indian government has taken steps to monitor the export plans of some of the large engineering exporters. For this purpose, a computerised monitoring system is being planned and many companies have already been identified for participation in this programme.

He said that a series of measures have already been taken to promote engineering exports. These include the liberalisation of industrial licensing, delicensing of certain industries, streamlining of licensing procedures, expansion of capacities for exports and liberalisation of import of technology.

French firms to promote Indian exports to Europe

NEW DELHI, Feb 13, (Kuma): Major French companies today pledged to promote Indian exports to Europe and North Africa nations.

A high level French trade mission, led by Auchan and Carrefour chains of Hyper market company representative promised the Indian government that steps would be taken to balance existing trade deficits. They assured India that it would help her in exporting more goods and products to North African nations, especially to Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania. India has had a negative balance of trade with France during the last five years and the magnitude of negative trade balance has increased from \$250 million in 1982-83 to \$360 million in 1986-87.

Indian imports from France in 1986-87 were of the order of \$650 million while exports during the period stood at \$260 million.

During the course of discussion, the French delegation assured its counterparts that every effort would be made to balance the two-way trade. The delegation is here to identify products which could be exported to France as well as some of the French-speaking African nations. Besides import of traditional items, from India the buyer mission will make an endeavour to import other items as well. The goods likely to be imported are computer software marine products, machine tools, electronic items, textiles, agricultural machinery, automobile accessories, railway equipment garments and light engineering goods. France is one of the important markets identified by the Indian Trade Development Authority for Exports.

Canada's trade surplus shrinks

OTTAWA, Feb 13, (AP): Canada's merchandise trade surplus shrank to 208 million Canadian dollars (\$164 million) in December, the lowest monthly surplus since September 1981. Statistics Canada said today. The December surplus, down from a revised 402 million Canadian dollars in November, left the full year's surplus at the lowest level in seven years. The 1987 surplus totalled 10.3 billion Canadian dollars (\$8.1 billion) down marginally from 10.4 billion Canadian dollars in 1986, the agency said. The surplus with the United States, Canada's most important trading partner, declined to 17 billion Canadian dollars from 18.4 billion Canadian dollars in 1986. Paul Kovacs, senior economist at the Burns Fry Investment House in Toronto, said he had expected 1987 would have ended with a much stronger trade surplus. "We clearly had a deteriorating trend at the end of the year, which is disturbing," said Kovacs. Exports grew by 4.1 per cent in 1987 from the previous year, rising to 125.8 billion Canadian dollars. However, imports increased at the slightly quicker pace of 4.7 per cent during year to reach 115.4 billion Canadian dollars by year end.

ESSAR GUJARAT LIMITED

Essar Gujarat Limited is a company belonging to the Essar Group. The other major company in the Group is Essar Shipping Limited, which has maintained an impressive growth, profit and dividend record.

Essar Gujarat is a diversified high-technology engineering company with four independent divisions viz. ENERGY—oil drilling operations, CONSTRUCTION — marine construction specialist, OFFSHORE — offshore engineering such as submarine pipelaying and STEEL — setting up the world's largest and India's first gas based hot briquetted sponge iron project.

The existing three divisions, namely Energy, Construction and Offshore are involved in critical high growth areas and each division has a large potential of its own as is evidenced from the growth needs of the economy.

PAST PERFORMANCE OF EGL

EGL is an existing profit making, dividend paying company. The company's financial performance is quite impressive. The average profits after tax over the last five years, has been approx. Rs.4 crores on a share capital of Rs.1 crore.

The Gross Assets of the company increased from Rs.12 crores in 1983-84 to Rs.70 crores in 1987 — a 483% increase in just two years — and are expected to further rise to approx. Rs.400 crores in the next two to three years. A notable factor is that at an asset level of Rs.400 crores the company's capital will be very low — only Rs. 25 crores and Reserves will be approx. Rs.100 crores. The balance will be financed by long-term borrowings. This kind of financial structuring will enable the company to reward its share holders attractively.

The free reserves and surplus of the company as on 30th November, 1987 amounted to approx. Rs.21 crores. Out of which approx. Rs.17 crores are free reserves made out of the profits generated by the company over the previous years. These reserves, as indicated earlier, are estimated to rise to approx. Rs.100 crores in the next two to three years.

Essar Gujarat has been practising the philosophy of Net Worth driven growth. The average book value per share over the past five years has been approx. Rs. 145 — and is expected to be over Rs.50 — on the enlarged equity base. In view of the consistent profits of the current three divisions alone, the company expects to maintain the book value of its share at this high level.

BROAD BASED ACTIVITIES

With the activities of the four divisions of Essar Gujarat spread over different areas of business, the company is adequately insured against any adverse business condition in any specific line of activity.

EQUITY ISSUE

Essar Gujarat is now entering the market for the first time in order to broad-base its capital structure. The company is issuing 45 lakh Equity Shares of Rs.10/- each at a premium of only Rs.30/- per share. Essar Shipping aggregate Rs.6.77 crores, and the balance of 28.075 lakh shares aggregating Rs.11.23 crores is being offered to the Indian public. The other Group Companies, Essar Shipping Ltd., and Essar Investments Ltd., are also investing Rs.17 crores in Equity Capital of Essar Gujarat Ltd., at the same premium of Rs.30/- per share.

The issue will open for subscription both for NRIs and the Indian public on 18th February, 1988.

The issue offers the investors an opportunity to participate in the existing and growing Net Worth of net earnings per each share of Rs.10/- are expected to exceed 100 per cent. Moreover, the company has assured pro-rata dividend of 30% on the enlarged capital for 1987-88.

Stocks respond sluggishly to falling interest rates

NEW YORK, Feb 13, (AP): The stock market has reacted with uncharacteristic confusion to a drop in interest rates during the past several months.

A long decline in interest rates from their lofty levels at the start of the 1980s was widely cited as one of the primary forces behind the great bull market in stocks. When rates surged upward last spring, the stock market ran into trouble.

Since the crash in October, interest rates have come down again, with yields on long-term treasury bonds falling from above 10 percent to 8.4 percent as of yesterday. But stock traders have shown little enthusiasm.

Growth

Commerce Secretary William Verity said the growth in exports, which hit a record in December, pointed to continued economic vitality and more jobs for Americans.

But he acknowledged the

textbook pattern that would lift investors' spirits.

Sustained declines in interest rates often occur in recessions, prompted by weak demand for credit. As rates fall, they help set the stage for a rebound in business activity.

This time, however, they have moved lower against a backdrop of an economic expansion that is more than five years old. And many observers see them as an early symptom of a business slump.

Evidence

There has been very little corroborating evidence for the view in the statistical measures of the economy so far.

US exports set a record for the second straight month in December, attesting to a revival in manufacturing. If the latest information on retail sales is to be believed, consumers haven't run out of spending money.

"Over the last several weeks,

there has indeed been an accumulation of positive fundamentals," said John Connolly, an analyst at Dean Witter Reynolds Inc. "They have moved the bond market rather than the stock market, but that still counts.

Rally

"It is quite normal for the bond market to react first and, in a sense, clear out a path for the stock market."

Stocks did rally in the past week, pushing the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials up 72.78 points to 1,983.26.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 3.51 to 144.86; the American Stock Exchange market value

CURRENCY & BUSINESS

Investors seek safe haven

World stock markets still edgy

By Miles

IN troubled times everybody is looking for a safe haven for their savings. With the world's stockmarkets still extremely edgy and volatile it is only natural that investors will look elsewhere.

Banks and building societies are safe enough, but they are also predictable and boring, so those looking for a little excitement begin to wonder about alternative investments.

What exactly is meant by this term? Well, it can cover a wide range of things: gold and other precious metals, diamonds, works of art, property and collectibles like antiques or stamps.

How do these compare with more mundane investments, particularly when there's a hint of financial panic in the air?

Value

Let's begin with collectibles, since they seem to be the riskiest of all. It is undoubtedly true that things like rare stamps do undergo spectacular rises in value, but nevertheless I feel that such things are far too risky for the average investor.

There are two main problems, one is to do with the fact that the sort of people who spend vast amounts on uncommon stamps or rare antiques are likely to be

experts in the field.

For you to compete with them in the market, you should at least be as knowledgeable as they are or else you're likely to make some appalling mistakes. Of course, the major stamp auctioneers like Spinks & Sons will help you to choose a portfolio of rare stamps, but then you are leaving an awful lot to trust, and if the auctioneers make a genuine mistake in anticipating the market, you have no recourse at all.

Problem

The second problem with collectibles concerns the simple fact that for something to have a value there must be a market. If there's a big financial crash, who is going to have the money to spend a fortune on postage stamps? Isn't it much more likely that the crash will lead to many other people trying to sell off their stamps for whatever they can get just to rescue something from the disaster?

In other words, just when you need the money, the stamps will drop in value.

The same applies to works of art. You probably read about Van Gogh's painting 'Irises' which was sold at Sotheby's last November for just around \$50 million dollars.

After the first couple of times he got fed up with not being able

to get his money out of the local bank before he had to jump on the plane or helicopter, so he bought diamonds.

His wife was delighted, and by the time they got to Kuwait they were a pretty sparkling pair, their life's savings glittering all over their fingers.

If anything happens we can always buy a ticket, pay a bribe, whatever, our whole stash is very portable," he used to say.

Over the years the price of diamonds has fluctuated a bit, it went through a major fall some five or six years ago when prices had risen too far too fast. So even though diamonds are forever, they are not forever the same price.

Burden

Gold is bulkier, if you put everything into gold you might soon find it became a rather heavy burden.

In the latest crash gold has performed rather erratically. At first, gold shares fell as fast as any other shares. Then they recovered somewhat, as gold slowly rose by about ten percent.

Then gold started to slip again and gold shares fell as well. Currently, it is just a bit cheaper than it was before the crash happened. So gold has merely kept its approximate value, but in

troubled times, even stability is to be respected.

Property is a difficult area to evaluate. There's something to be said for the argument that land is the ultimate security, but on the other hand, property is bound to fall in value if there's a major crash.

Property

Why? Because people will be selling property in order to pay their debts and obligations. If everyone is selling, then the price will fall. If you own a property as a home, then its value is not really to be measured purely in financial terms. However, now is probably not the time to buy property for investment purposes.

To sum up, alternative investments involve different degrees of risk.

Gold and other precious metals or stones are probably the least risky, but should be seen as only a part of one's portfolio, no more than fifteen per cent at most. Antiques and stamps seem the riskiest of all, unless you can afford to buy them for the sheer pleasure of owning them.

Somewhere, someone is sitting back with a happy smile, staring at fifty million dollars worth of 'Irises'. One only hopes he's enjoying it to the full.



HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, yesterday received Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Al Khaled (right) and heads of delegations attending the Arab Stock Market meeting.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE	OPNG	CLSG
NATIONAL BANK	1.010	1.020	1.020	1.020	20000	6	AL NIMRE MINERALS	0.79 0.79
GULF BANK	0.380	0.380	0.385	0.380	69000	25	AL-NISER EXCHANGE	0.89 0.90
COMMERCIAL BK	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	45000	13	ALA-ADIN COMPANY	1.32 1.33
ANLI BANK	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340	10000	2	ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.93 1.95
B.K.H.E	0.305	0.305	0.310	0.300	118000	19	ARAB BANK	121.0 120.5
K.R.E.B.	0.420	0.395	0.415	0.395	129356	6	ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.56 4.56
BURGAN BANK	0.265	0.275	0.275	0.275	26000	18	ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47 1.48
K.F.HOUSE	0.490	0.495	0.495	0.490	60000	6	ARAB INSURANCE	1.01 1.00
INVESTMENT SECTOR							ARAB INTL INV/TRAD.	---
KMT INV. CO.	0.204	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB INT'L HOTELS	0.53 0.58
K.F.T.G.I.C.	0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB JOR/INV/STK/BK	2.10 2.09
K.L.I.C.	0.168	0.176	0.176	0.168	94000	27	ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.33 0.32
COM.FACILITIES	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.430	80000	5	ARAB PHARMA.MANF.	2.16 2.16
AHLIA INV.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	ARAB PHARMA/CHEN.	0.76 0.75
I.F.A.	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	60000	3	ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65 1.65
INV. PEARL KWT	0.105	0.106	0.106	0.106	60000	1	BANK OF JORDAN	16.3016.30
INVESTMENT SECTOR							BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00 0.95
KUT INSURANCE	0.730	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	CAIRO AMMAN BANK	27.41 27.50
GULF INSURANCE	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.40 0.40
AHLIA INS. CO.	0.560	0.550	0.560	0.550	232507	5	DAR AL ABDAA DV/INV.	1.54 1.55
VARBA INS. CO.	0.490	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.44 0.44
REAL EST. SECTOR							DEVELOP/INVEST/FAS.	0.63 0.63
KAT R.EST. CO.	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	120000	5	GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39 2.63
UNI.R.EST. CO.	0.114	0.116	0.116	0.116	100000	4	GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.30 1.30
NAT.R.EST. CO.	0.234	-----	-----	-----	-----	GENERAL MINING	1.55 1.50	
SALHAN R.E.	0.070	-----	-----	-----	-----	HOLY LAND INS.	1.15 1.20	
KUT PROJECTS	0.094	-----	-----	-----	-----	INDUSTRY DEVLPT BNK	0.75 0.75	
KUT R.E.I. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	INDSTR/COM/AGR.	1.51 1.53	
INDUSTRY SECTOR						INDUSTRIAL INVEST	---	
HAT IND. CO.	0.580	-----	-----	-----	-----	INTERMED/PETRO/CH	1.44 1.45	
KUT M.P. IND.	0.255	-----	-----	-----	-----	INTERN.COM/INV	0.64 0.64	
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.238	-----	-----	-----	-----	IRIBID ELECTRICITY	0.96 0.97	
REF. IND. CO.	0.390	-----	-----	-----	-----	ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64 0.64	
H.A.N.T.CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	J.PRESS FOUNDATION	3.50 3.20	
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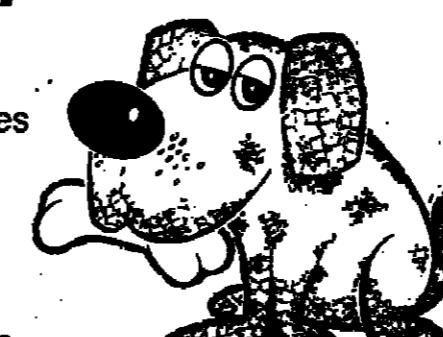
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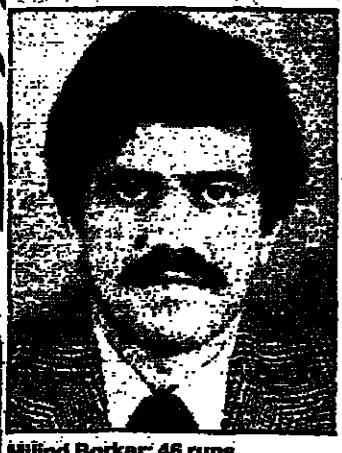
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SPORTS

Flying Arrows defeat Hubara



FLYING Arrows asserted their position in the Burud League Trophy, with a very convincing win over Hubara CC, on Friday at the EPL grounds.

Captain Alex Rego, whose luck with the coin has been tremendous, once again won the toss and elected to bat.

Openers Verold Sirur and Imdad Ali started the proceedings very confidently, facing the Hubara bowlers Jimmy James and Clive Greenwood, but Verold was soon out having scored 13, to the bowling of Greenwood. Salim Busheihi who had just last week, top scored with 64, against NBK, was again in great form and scored a power-packed 85 runs in just 65 balls.

Knock

His knock was studded with some very elegant drives and superb cuts and pulls which got him 10 boundaries. He was unlucky to miss his century when he played a tired looking shot to Peter Pfeiffer and was bowled.

Salim was well supported by Milind Borkar for the 5th wicket partnership which produced 73 runs. Milind was in punishing mood and he scored a magnificent 46 runs in 30 balls and was unfortunate to miss 50, when he was bowled by Mike D'Souza in the very last over of the match.

Francis Pereira smashed his way to a hurricane 28 not out in 14 balls and alongwith Milind had a very fruitful partnership of 46 valuable runs which took Flying Arrows to 235 runs for seven wickets, in their allotted 30 overs.

The other batsmen to score double figures were, Imdad Ali (18), and Albert D'Silva (21). Jimmy James picked up 2 wickets while Pfeiffer, Oliver, Mike, Greenwood, took a wicket each.

In reply, Hubara faced with the uphill task of scoring almost 8 runs per over totalled 174 runs for the loss of 4 wickets in 30 overs.

Jimmy James scored a very confident 41 runs but was deceived by Mukesh Michan-

New South Wales recover against Victoria

MELBOURNE, Feb 13, (Reuter): Greg Matthews, who had earlier returned career-best figures of six for 97, and Mark Waugh led New South Wales' recovery after they had lost their first four wickets for 80 in the Sheffield Shield match against Victoria today.

The pair shared an unbeaten stand of 14 to take their side to 134 for four in reply to Victoria's first innings score of 403. Waugh has made 53 and Matthews 28.

Earlier Dimattina carried their sixth-wicket partnership to 104 after Victoria had resumed on the second day at 288 for five.

Waugh was Victoria's top scorer, clubbing 15 fours in his innings of 80. Dimattina made 60, his highest Shield score.

Sjoberg wins high jump

NAGOYA, Japan, Feb 13, (AP): Patrik Sjoberg of Sweden today won the men's high jump at an international track and field meet with a leap of 2.25 metres, shorter than his world indoor record of 2.41 metres.

It was his second triumph in three days.

Rick Noji of the United States, who also had a leap of 2.25 metres, came in second. Sjoberg won top place because he had fewer faults.

Sjoberg captured the same event with a leap of 2.30 metres on Thursday in an international track and field meet in Kobe.

Robert Emmian of the Soviet Union leaped 7.68 metres to win the men's long jump at the Aichi Municipal Gymnasium in Central Japan.

The pole vault went to France's Thierry Vigneron, who cleared a 5.6-metre bar.

Norifumi Yamashita of Japan captured the men's triple jump with a leap of 15.95 metres.

In the women's event, Tamara Bykova of the Soviet Union posted her second victory in three days, taking the high jump with a leap of 1.85 metres.



Seffin Bushelhi: 85 runs

HOME SIDE REELING AT 83 FOR FOUR IN REPLY TO ENGLAND'S 319

Dilley rips New Zealand top apart

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb 13, (Reuter): Graham Dilley has often promised much for England and he delivered today by ripping New Zealand apart on the second day of the first cricket Test.

Bowling with fire and obtaining prodigious lift, Dilley took all the New Zealand wickets to fall and leave the home side reeling at 83 for four in reply to England's 319.

Delayed

The start was delayed 40 minutes by bad light, and overnight rain which freshened the lush pitch allowed both Chatfield and Dilley to extract disconcerting lift.

Because bad light stopped play for more than an hour, the second day could have gone on for an extra hour after the scheduled close. But the poor light prevented all but seven minutes of that.

New Zealand's fourth different opening pairing in as many Tests this season proved no more effective than the others. John Wright was out before tea.

ENGLAND first innings (overnight) C Broad c Smith b Snedden 114

caught at short leg by Martyn Moxon for 10 with the score on 20.

Dilley's line improved after tea and he had Trevor Franklin caught at third slip by Athey. Then Andrew Jones was caught behind by Bruce French to a ball that reared off a length.

He then had the prize wicket of Martin Crowe, caught bat-pad, again to Moxon. Dilley's spell of four for 13 of nine overs will rate as one of the best in his career.

Jeff Crowe and John Bracewell gave the New Zealand score some respectability. The two added 43 with Crowe not out on 15 and Bracewell on 22.

For New Zealand, Ewen Chatfield bowled unchanged to collect four wickets for 31 runs for the day and four for 84 for the match.

He was unlucky yesterday but got David Capel with his first ball of the day, caught by Bracewell at second slip for 11.

Scoreboard
ENGLAND first innings (overnight) C Broad c Smith b Snedden 114

M Moxon c Jones b Morrison 1 T Robinson c Smith b Morrison 70 M Gatting c sub (Greatbatch) b Morrison 5 B Athey c sub (Greatbatch) b Morrison 22 D Capel c Bracewell b Chatfield 11 B French c Smith b Chatfield 7 J Emburey c Jones b Morrison 42 P DeFreitas c Morrison b Chatfield 4 P Jarvis c Smith b Chatfield 14 G Dilley not out 7 Extras (lb-1 nb-7 w-1) 7 TOTAL 319 Fall of wickets 1-7 2-175 3-186 4-219 5-237 6-241 7-248 8-260 9-285 Bowling: Hadlee 18-3-50-0 (1nb), Morrison 21-1-3-69-5 (1w), Chatfield 42-13-87-4, Snedden 33-13-87-1, Bracewell 6-1-16-0.

NEW ZEALAND first innings J Wright c Moxon b Dilley 10 T Franklin c Athey b Dilley 10 A Jones c French b Dilley 8 M Crowe c Moxon b Dilley 5 J Crowe not out 15 Extras (lb-1 nb-1) 22 Total (for four wickets) 83 Fall of wickets 1-202-253-324-40 To bat: R. Hadlee, I. Smith, M. Snedden, D. Morrison, E. Chatfield. Bowling to date: DeFreitas 11-1-21-0 (5nb), Dilley 12-5-13-4 (2nb), Capel 6-0-26-0, Jarvis 3-1-11-0, Emburey 4-3-2-0.



Paul Jarvis of England hooks a ball off New Zealand bowler Martin Snedden as wicketkeeper Ian Smith looks on. (Reuter wirephoto)

Hubara gain easy win

HUBARA Cricket Club gained an easy seven wicket victory over Falcons in a Rahim League match at Ahmadi on Thursday.

Winning the toss, captain Craig Shipton unusually elected to field first. His tactics worked well as Jimmy James (1 for 32) uprooted Riaz's (1) middle stump in the first over.

Anas (14) and Ijaz (52) took the score to 74 before Ijaz was bowled by Pat Flower (1 for 37).

T. Behram's slow bowling accounted for two more batsmen but his wayward early overs allowed Arid to score a quickfire 43 not out.

James returned and Clive Greenwood (1 for 16) to restrict the score in the final overs. Fal-

cons finished with a respectable 146 for 5 off 24 overs.

Hubara's batsmen have found a team in recent weeks and needed a solid start. Dave Talbot (15) was promoted up the order to open with regular Shipton (78 not out). A confident opening partnership ended on 34 as a yes-no-sorry? call for Shipton ran out Talbot. Ijaz added only a single before James (32) took the score within easy reach.

James was bowled with twenty-one runs needed for victory and it was left to Flower (11 not out) to paddle Hubara to victory.

This result leaves Hubara at the top of the Rahim League to play Evergreen in the deciding match on March 24.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Malabon team win by default

THE Sweet Makers (Malabon) team won their 30th game by default against the Fish Exporters (Navotas Team) and moved to 7th position after the 11th week of the First Filipino Non-pro Bowling League held on Friday at Club 300. The determined Sweet Makers who appointed some of the strongest teams in the tournament is the team to watch and are composed of Emma Garcia, Mercy Laborde, Waled Al Zink, Jen Gaa, Mel Cervera, Sadek, Celso Estrada and Bobby Bautista.

Vying

With two more weeks remaining in the league, there are four teams who are vying for the prestigious championship trophy, they are, Caloocan City (Steel Makers), Pasay City (Contractors), Manila (Diplomats), and Pasig (Textiles). Of these favourite teams only three will qualify in the final on March 4 and will play in step-ladder games.

Meanwhile, Diplomat Lando Cabrao of Manila team with his magnificent reversed straight ball style took the men's honours for the day by capturing the high game, series and average with a score of 222, 569 and 190 respectively. Car maker Jesus Ventus of Las Pinas team with his excellent performance last week took the men's high game for a single mark of 223.

On the other hand, Diplomat Tonette Arizabal also of Manila team with her stylistic cross ball strike garnered 192 pinfalls to seal her women's high game for the day while, Steel Maker Eva Sabay, Caloocan City 166, 2) Tonette Arizabal, Manila 163.

200 club members

Lando Cabrao, Manila 222; Nestor Sogale, Pasig 214; Manny Inserto, Manila 213; Jesus Ventus, Las Pinas 212; Carl B. Al Hammour, Caloocan City 209; Nelson Geronimo, Pasay City 207; Ed de la Fuenie, Caloocan City 205.

Overall standings

Men's high game: 1) Lando Cabrao, Manila 190, 2) Jesus Ventus, Las Pinas 187.

Women's high average: 1) Eva Sabay, Caloocan City 166, 2) Tonette Arizabal, Manila 163; 3) Mercy Laborde, Malabon.

Team results

Valenzuela drew Las Pinas 2-2, Pasay City downed Quezon City 4-0. Pasig defeated Paranaque 4-0. Malabon won by default against Navotas 4-0. Makati beat Mandaluyong 3-1. Caloocan City edged Manila 3-1, and Makati-Gmbb bye.

Individual standings

Men's high game: 1) Lando Cabrao,

Mandaluyong 33, Nestor Sogale, Pasig 314.

Women's high game: 1) Tonette Arizabal, Manila 192, 2) Mercy Laborde, Malabon 184.

Men's high series: 1) Lando Cabrao,

Manila 569, 2) Jesus Ventus, Las Pinas 560.

Women's high series: 1) Eva Sabay, Caloocan City 498, 2) Tonette Arizabal, Manila 488.



Picture shows the Pasay City team (the Contractors) composed of (seating l-r); Nito Almaza (captain), Gloria Estanarte, (standing), Jun Mojica (vice-captain), Neiso Gerolimo, Renz Ruiz, Tony Lacson and Homer Medina.

Men's high average: 1) Lando Cabrao, Manila 222; Nestor Sogale, Pasig 214; Manny Inserto, Manila 213; Gloria Estanarte, Pasay City 204.

Men's high series: 1) Tony Lacson, Pasay City 615, 2) Roy de los Santos, Las Pinas 614.

Women's high series: 1) Lynne Reyes, Pasay City 214; Manny Inserto, Manila 213; Jesus Ventus, Las Pinas 212; Carl B. Al Hammour, Caloocan City 209; Nelson Geronimo, Pasay City 207; Ed de la Fuenie, Caloocan City 205.

Overall standings

Men's high game: 1) Manny Inserto, Manila 236.

Women's high game: 1) Arlene Boncillo, Valenzuela 213, 2) Gloria Estanarte, Pasay City 204.

Men's high series: 1) Tony Lacson, Pasay City 615, 2) Roy de los Santos, Las Pinas 614.

Women's high series: 1) Lynne Reyes, Pasay City 214; Manny Inserto, Manila 213; Gloria Estanarte, Pasay City 204.

Men's high average: 1) Lando Cabrao, Manila 569, 2) Jesus Ventus, Las Pinas 560.

Women's high average: 1) Eva Sabay, Caloocan City 498, 2) Tonette Arizabal, Manila 488.

The league is being sponsored by Mahalay Restaurant and organized by its chairman Manuel I. Inserto.

Australia in command

McDermott puts Sri Lanka on the defensive

PERTH, Australia, Feb 13, (Reuter): Pace bowler Craig McDermott grabbed two wickets in two balls to put Sri Lanka on the defensive on the second day of their Test against Australia to 60 for three.

At the close Sri Lanka were 85 for three in their first innings, still 171 short of avoiding the follow-on.

Bounced back

Earlier, Sri Lanka's bowlers had bounced back from yesterday's wayward display to claim seven wickets for 122 and dismiss Australia for 455 midway through the second session.

The touring side's openers then rode their luck to reach 51 without loss, before Brendon Kuruppu, on 19, slashed McDermott to gully where Geoff Marsh atoned for dropping the same batsman by holding a fine catch.

Next tall Sanaath Kaluperuma, a late replacement for the injured Asanka Gurusinghe, played an indifferent shot to a full length ball and was adjudged not out.

The bowling improvement with the new ball earned quick reward when Mike Veletta and the injured Dean Jones, resuming at 333 for three, were removed in successive overs.

Veletta was well caught by

wicketkeeper Guy de Alwis wide to his left off Ratnayake for 21 while Jones padded up once too often to Graeme Labrooy and was lbw for 102 after adding only two to his overnight score.

Caught

Steve Waugh was next out, caught superbly by a leaping Labrooy at mid-off for 20 to leave Australia 380 for three.

The last four wickets fell for 66 for three in their first four overs.

Wasting

Neither side would be happy with the day's events. Sri Lanka for wasting their bowlers' fine display and Australia for a poor batting performance.

Ravi Ratnayake and Kaushik Amalean, with four wickets each, were the pick of the bowlers who refound their line and length on a pitch that still favoured the batsmen.

The bowling improvement with the new ball earned quick reward when Mike Veletta and the injured Dean Jones, resuming at 333 for three, were removed in successive overs.

Veletta was well caught by

A Dodeen

SPORTS

KT Club announce rally dates

By Gail Seery

KTMSD, the motorsports division of the KT Club have now announced all the dates for their extended 1988-89 season of car rallies. The season was extended in order to facilitate the changeover from the traditional January to December season to a September to April season.

The season, which opened on January 15, will continue with the Kuwait International Rally on March 17 and 18. Mohamad Bin Sulayem and Saeed Al Hajri will both be taking part, and Al Hajri will be aiming to reverse his run of bad luck, which saw him taking second place in Qatar at the weekend. Bin Sulayem will also aim for a win, to speed him towards retaining his title for the third year running.

Most local drivers are expected to turn out for the two day event, for which any points scored towards the championship will be doubled. All drivers competing in the National Championship must drive in at least one of the two international events in the season.

Programme of KTMSD events for 1988/89
March 17 & 18, 1988 — Kuwait International
April 15 — National Championship
September 30 — National Championship
October 21 — National Championship
November 18 — Jeep Rally
December 16 — National Championship
January 20 1989 — National Championship
March 16 & 17 1989 — Kuwait International
April 7 1989 — National Championship
Provisional Marlboro Desert Challenge Calendar 1988
May 26 & 27 Bahrain
June 14 & 15 Jordan
September 15 & 16 Qatar
October 19, 20 & 21 Dubai
November 18 Kuwait

Edberg cruises into final

ROTTERDAM, Feb 13, (Reuter): Sweden's Stefan Edberg cruised into the final of the Rotterdam Grand Prix tournament today with an almost faultless 6-3 6-3 victory over Dutchman Michiel Schapers.

The world number two and top seed here disposed of Schapers in 80 minutes with a masterful display of sharp serving and varied volleying at the net.

Schapers, expected to give the Swede a run for his money after reaching the quarter-finals of the Australian Open last month, never really got into the match.

The Rotterdam-born player failed to return Edberg's serve convincingly and double-faulted on crucial points after Edberg broke him in his first service game.

In tomorrow's final, Edberg, the title-holder, meets the winner of today's second semifinal between Czechoslovak Miloslav Meir and Jonas Svensson of Sweden.

Svensson disposed of second seed Jimmy Connors in a grueling three-hour match which went on into the early hours of this morning.

The Swede, who was only seven when Connors first hit the top, reached the semi-finals with a 6-3 5-7-6 (8-6) victory over the American.

But the 21-year-old Swede, seeded sixth here, had to fight for every point in a grueling three-hour match which went to a third-set tie break.

Noah and Doumbia in semifinals

LYON, France, Feb 13, (Reuter): Top-seeded Yannick Noah of France and Senegal's Yaya Doumbia, surprise packet of the Lyon Grand Prix tennis tournament, both reached the semifinals yesterday.

Noah defeated Australian Brod Dyke 6-4 6-2 after a timid start to the match which left him trailing 3-0.

Today he will face American Todd Nelson, who disposed of France's Philippe Pech 6-2 7-6 (7-0).

Unseeded Doumbia galvanized tennis fans on Monday when he eliminated Soviet tennis star Andrei Chesnokov, seeded second, and then went on to beat Jerome Potier of France.

Yesterday he dispatched eighth-seeded Jeremy Bates of Britain 7-5 6-3 and now faces Eduardo Masso of Argentina who beat third-seeded Kelly Evernden of New Zealand today.

BEARDSLEY, BARNEs AND ALDRIDGE IN GOAL SPREE

Liverpool trounce Watford to extend unbeaten run

LONDON, Feb 13, (Reuter): Liverpool, striding imperiously towards the English soccer League title, routed Watford 4-1 away today to extend their unbeaten run in the First Division to 26 matches.

Two goals by Peter Beardsley, one by his England team-mate John Barnes against his former club, and another from John Aldridge swept Liverpool to their 20th League win.

Substitute Luther Blissett pulled one back for Watford — the first goal Liverpool have conceded in 11 League and Cup games — but their latest success continued to leave the rest of the division chasing shadows.

Liverpool have a 12-point lead and two games in hand over second placed Manchester United, who won 2-1 at Chelsea, while Nottingham Forest remain

in third place, 17 points behind the leaders, after a 1-1 draw at Southampton.

Defender Steve Bruce, Manchester United's recent signing from Norwich, scored his first goal for his new club and midfielder Liam O'Brien fired the second a minute later.

Forest trailed to a 38th-minute strike by Colin Clarke but Nigel Clough seized the equaliser 60 seconds before half-time.

Revival

Liverpool's irresistible form ended a revival by Watford, who were undefeated in their last seven League and FA Cup matches, and gave the leaders a four-goal tally in a League game for the ninth time this season.

Liverpool put the result beyond all doubt with a three-goal burst in 12 minutes early in the second half.

Unpredictable winter weather may be a spoiler

Opening ceremony deliberately cloaked in mystery

CALGARY, Alberta, Feb 13, (AP): A Winter Olympics of superlatives flashes into glittering life today with an opening ceremony that has been deliberately cloaked in mystery.

"We want this to be ... a whodunit (mystery story)," Terry Steward, head of media information for the Calgary Games, said on the eve of the opening. "We don't want to spoil it."

One potential spoiler — unpredictable winter weather — again reared its ugly head yesterday.

Winds gusting to 150 kph (94 mph) forced abridgement of the fourth training run for the men's downhill pit on Sunday.

At the Nordic site in Canmore, officials had to restrict the women's 10-kilometre cross-country training to preserve a track made soft by two days of warm Chinook winds. Chinook is an Indian word meaning

"snow-eater."

A drastic shift from thaw to deep freeze was predicted overnight, and the 60,000 spectators planning to attend today's ceremony were cautioned to bund up for "unpleasant" minus 8 degree C (18 F) temperatures. An estimated 2 billion people worldwide will watch the ceremony in comfort on television.

Athletic action starts right after the ceremonial opening, which is set to begin at 1 pm (2000 GMT). The Group B ice hockey matches pit Czechoslovakia against West Germany, Norway against defending champion Soviet Union and the United States against Austria.

East Germany, the Soviet Union and Switzerland are favourites in the race for 40 gold medals in 10 sports.

skating and acrobatic freestyle skiing — two potential future Olympics events.

Gruelling

The 89-day, 17,850-kilometre (11,160-mile) Olympic torch relay across Canada has to rate as the most grueling — even though more than half of the distance was covered by plane and helicopter.

Skis, dog sleds, ice skates and snowshoes also were used for the most rugged terrain. Several cases of frostbite were reported among the 6,214 runners as temperatures dipped as low as 40 below zero in northern Alberta.

The long, hard trail ends today in Calgary's McMahon stadium, where the torch will be used to ignite the Olympic flame, which will burn until the closing ceremony on Feb 28.

Like other details of the opening ceremony, the name of the final torch bearer was being kept secret. But some information has

leaked out:

About 1,600 people will participate in the show, including Indians on horseback, square

dancers and hundreds of schoolchildren dressed in a variety of costumes and waving colourful flags.

Participants wave flags during a rehearsal of the opening ceremony at McMahon stadium in Calgary.

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